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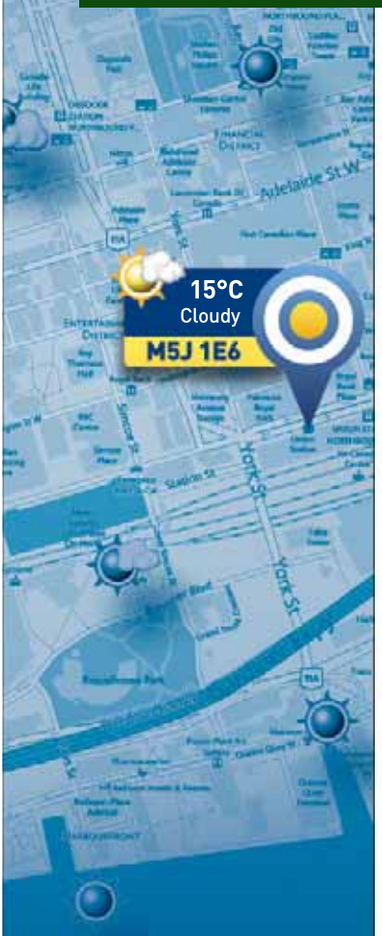


The Toronto Blue Jays' Yunel Escobar speaks to reporters at Yankee Stadium in New York on Tuesday. Escobar was suspended for three games by the Jays for wearing eye-black displaying a homophobic slur written in Spanish during last Saturday's game against the Boston Red Sox. More coverage, page 55. KATHY WILLENS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ESCOBAR DOCKED THREE GAMES

elena @esuensehr
I disagree with the short game suspension Yunel Escobar received, I'm beyond infuriated. A FULL Season suspension would justify his actions.

sтeph anayaa @LC_Bachatera
White people misinterpret everything I swear -__- "tu ere maricon" means "you're a pussy" it's not a homophobic slur. 3 games is soft tho

Taylor O'Leary @T_JO24
Though I do think the suspension was correct. Regardless if it was a gay slur or pussy. Still can't put that on your face and go on TV.

Christopher Pyper @stinkypyper
Do you not see the irony in writing homophobic slurs on your face with make-up while you play for the city with the largest pride party?

Ali Prince Naqvi @AliPrinceNaqvi
Yunel Escobar had a homophobic slur on his eye black because his playing skills aren't good enough to attract attention.

Accused pimp maintains his innocence

Police continue investigation after girls, 14 and 15, were made to be prostitutes PAGE 3

Predator or victim?

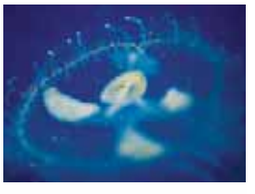
Judgment expected Friday after final submissions in trial of teacher accused of sexually assaulting ex-student PAGE 3

Old wounds, new grudges

Anniversary of Japanese invasion and spat over islands draw out thousands of Chinese protesters PAGE 14

Jellyfish sightings pouring in

Freshwater dwellers surprise swimmers and fishers in Ontario and beyond PAGE 4



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Fare markup

TTC tokens TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Making a profit selling TTC tokens not illegal

Hey buddy, want to buy some tokens?

Some TTC riders, frustrated by paying more at the corner store for tickets, tokens and passes than at collectors' booths, have taken to the Internet to query the legalities and vent their frustration.

There is nothing to prevent someone from buying TTC tokens and selling them at a profit, according to transit officials. It isn't illegal.

"The TTC has no jurisdiction over retailers who are not authorized," said TTC spokesman Brad Ross.

The TTC has about 1,200 authorized corner stores, gas stations and even big retail chains that sell fare media for the same price commuters pay at collectors' booths in the subway.

It takes a dim view of authorized vendors that mark up prices, Ross said. Such dealers should be reported, and a TTC representative will contact them if they don't comply with the rules. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

No money spent: Officials

EHealth axes $46.2M diabetes registry contract

EHealth Ontario is cancelling its contract to set up a diabetes registry.

Greg Reed, president of eHealth, confirmed Tuesday that notice of termination has been sent to CGI Information Systems and Management Consultants Inc.

A resolution passed by the eHealth board of directors on Sept. 5 had recommended terminating the $46.2-million agreement to build a diabetes registry.

CGI and eHealth announced the six-year deal on Aug. 9, 2010 for the company to design, build and maintain the registry to better monitor diabetes patients.

Spokesman Robert Mitchell has said no money has been spent on the unfinished registry, and alleged CGI had regularly missed development deadlines.

Health Minister Deb Matthews said eHealth was concerned over "disappointing delays" with the registry. THE CANADIAN PRESS

How were teens, 14, 15, lured into prostitution?

Accused pimp speaks out. Suspect claims he did not know the girls, police continue to dig for answers

JESSICA SMITH
jessica.smith@metronews.ca

Quoted

"Because of the nature of the offence, they're highly lucrative offences and a secret kind of thing. So we've got to put the time in, we've got to do the due diligence and we've got to make sure that we don't miss anything." Det. Mark Benallick

An accused pimp declared his innocence Tuesday as police continue to investigate how two teenaged girls who lived in a group home northwest of Toronto were made to be prostitutes on Sherbourne Street.

Anthony Merchan, talking with Metro out of the basement window of his family's Corso Italia home on Monday, denied any involvement in prostitution and complained that police had been saying awful, untrue things about him.

"I don't know those girls," he said.

Merchan, who was released from custody on a $30,000 bond, is charged with human trafficking, procuring two girls, aged 14 and 15, for prostitution, and compelling them to engage in prostitution between Aug. 30 and Sept. 7.

He said he lost his job because of the charges.

On Sept. 8, police received a complaint about two girls from a group home northwest of the city and, the same day, arrested a 16-year-old girl and charged her with human trafficking and procuring for prostitution as well as threatening bodily harm.

Police arrested Merchan the next day.

Det. Mark Benallick said police are still working hard on the investigation, but the next steps are likely to take time. "Because of the nature of the offence, they're highly lucrative offences and a secret kind of thing. So we've got to put the time in, we've got to do the due diligence and we've got to make sure that we don't miss anything."

The Ministry of Children and Youth Services monitor and investigate serious occurrences at group homes, and may investigate the group home in question.

"We are taking this situation very seriously. We understand that the police are conducting an investigation and the ministry will determine next steps once that investigation is complete," a spokesperson for the ministry said in an emailed statement.

According to Benallick, no new concerns have been raised about the group home since police began their investigation.

Follow Jessica Smith on Twitter @jessiecatherine

Former Toronto elementary school teacher Mary Gowans leaves Ontario Superior Court after final submissions in her sex assault trial on Tuesday.
PETER SMALL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Sex assault trial. Contrasting portraits of teacher presented during closing arguments

Mary Gowans was either a trusting teacher ensnared by an obsessed ex-student, or a seductress grooming the youth for sex.

Two warring pictures emerged Tuesday during final submissions in the sex assault trial of the former Toronto public elementary school teacher.

Gowans crossed the line with her former student and when found out desperately tried to blame the victim, prosecutor Soula Olver argued.

"According to her, this is his fault," Olver told Justice John McMahon. "If the gender roles were reversed, one can imagine the outrage that would follow such an accusation."

But defence lawyer Peter Brauti countered that Gowans was the victim of a manipulative boy who wormed his way into her life to fulfil his sexual fantasies.

"Other people might say she should have seen the warning signs," Brauti told the judge. "But it doesn't lead to the conclusion that she had a sexual relationship with this individual."

Gowans, 43, has pleaded not guilty in Ontario Superior Court to sexual interference and sexual assault of her former French class student from November 2009 to Jan. 5, 2010.

If convicted, she faces a maximum 10-year sentence for each offence.

The tall 18-year-old student, who cannot be identified, babysat Gowans' two young children and helped her with after-class athletic activities after he left for high school.

Quoted

"According to her, this is his fault. If the gender roles were reversed, one can imagine the outrage that would follow such an accusation."
Prosecutor Soula Olver

He testified they "made out" five times in her home. They French-kissed and she exposed her breasts, he said.

Gowans countered that the only sexual event occurred when the boy suddenly put his hand on her crotch while trying to kiss her on Jan. 5, 2010.

She immediately barred him from her home, she said.

But Olver pointed out Gowans and the boy exchanged 205 text messages in the five days that followed.

"There was a very personal and inappropriate relationship," Olver said.

Brauti retorted that the boy boasted to his friends he would have sex with Gowans and was rebuffed when he finally made his move.

So, as insurance against getting into trouble, he told his sister that Gowans had initiated the sex, Brauti said. But his sister upped the stakes by informing their mother, who in turn went to police, the lawyer said.

The judge is expected to render his judgment Friday.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

SMEN 1

Mobile news

Qrikel

It's been a rough couple of weeks for Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney. Scan the code to see yet another behind-the-scenes video that has shocked critics, this one allegedly capturing Romney talking about Chinese workers.

Student nutrition

Food program in city schools needs an extra $1.2 million

Without $1.2 million in new funding for 2013, the city's starving student nutrition program will falter.

Dr. David McKeown, the city's medical officer of health, said Tuesday the program, which delivers breakfast to students in priority schools, is underfunded by at least 60 per cent.

"There's less and less food being served at schools every year," said McKeown, adding some schools are forced to purchase less nutritious food.

"Right now, the program is quite underfunded and vulnerable."

McKeown drafted a report of recommendations to sustain the program and will deliver it to the board of health Sept. 24.

Dr. David McKeown
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

He hopes the board will endorse his recommendations, which include more provincial funding and first-time federal funding, and forward them to city council for the 2013 budget debate.

The program is currently available in just over half of the city's 800-odd schools, and McKeown released a report in June on its benefits.

Councillor John Filion, chair of the board of health, said he expects the board to endorse McKeown's recommendations, but getting city council budget approval is another question.

"We have an obligation to help children that would otherwise come to school hungry," said Filion, noting some councillors nonetheless frown on expanding such programs.

Councilor Doug Holyday said the province should cover the cost of maintaining the program.

"As much as we'd like to help, sometimes it's just not possible," said Holyday. "I just don't know how much more the city taxpayers can afford to put into this program."

The city's contribution has grown from about $1.3 million in 1998 to about $3.8 million in 2012. Provincial contributions have grown from $0.8 million to $5.3 million.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Freshwater jellyfish surprise swimmers, boaters in Ontario

They're in our water.
And they're more common than you think

They're down there, beneath the water, pulsating gently like so many translucent hearts. Only they have tentacles. And toxic barbs.

Freshwater jellyfish — forms of hydrozoa called Craspedacusta sowerbyi — are surprising swimmers and fishers in lakes and rivers across Ontario and beyond.

"I have several hundred reports from 2012 (alone)," says Terry Peard, a retired biology professor in Harrisburg, Pa., who keeps tabs on sightings of the quarter-sized invertebrates on his website, freshwaterjellyfish.org.

Origin

The small, umbrella-shaped jellyfish is an invasive species that is widely thought to have originated in China's Yangtze River. They were first documented in the late 19th century, and are thought to have spread from China attached to plants and the bottoms of boats.

"I'm getting so many (reports) everyday, by the time I respond to all of them, the day's gone."

His site lists dozens of reported sightings from across Canada, mostly in Ontario, B.C., and Quebec, as well as encounters throughout the U.S. and around the world. He says freshwater jellyfish aren't as rare as you might think. The undulating invertebrate can be found on every continent except Antarctica.

On Monday, 43-year-old Graham Chivers was fishing with his girlfriend on Munn Bay in Belmont Lake, about 60 kilometres north of Trenton. They caught a pike, and were about to pack in when they noticed a "tiny blotch" next to the boat. To their surprise, it was a jellyfish.

"I grabbed my bail bucket and scooped it up," says Chivers, who spotted about 50 more as he drifted in his boat.

Michelle Wolfson, a Toronto mother and avid sailor, has twice come across clusters of the squishy creatures, once in 2010 in Lake Ontario in the Bay of Quinte, and again in Go Home Lake near Georgian Bay.

"People don't believe you at first," she says. "There were hundreds of them."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Graham Chivers and Tracy Munson found this freshwater jellyfish while fishing on Belmont Lake, about 60 km north of Trenton, on Monday. Dozens of sightings of the invasive species, Craspedacusta sowerbyi, have been reported in recent years in Ontario and beyond. PHOTO COURTESY OF TRACY MUNSON

Mother pleads guilty in 2-year-old daughter's death

Sabrina Siconolfi hides behind a man who escorted her out of court at 361 University Ave., where she pleaded guilty in the death of her two-year-old daughter on Tuesday. PAWEL DWULIT/TORONTO STAR

After 2-year-old Sakina Abdurahman was found dead, her mother told police the toddler had been dizzy and not eating well during the hot summer days before.

Sakina had been up late the night previous, July 8, 2010, watching TV and being given a sponge bath, her mother said. It had been too hot in the un-air-conditioned Victoria Park Ave. apartment, where the toddler was living with her mother and one-year-old brother.

That was the account of the girl's last hours given to police by her mother, Sabrina Siconolfi, according to an agreed statement of facts read at the Superior Court of Justice on Tuesday.

However, other details about the child's last few days are also contained in the agreed statement of facts: The toddler had multiple injuries. Neighbours had reported hearing, in the days before Sakina's death, a woman in the apartment yelling things such as: "Why were you born?" "You are a waste of sperm." And, "Eat your food or I'll kill you."

Siconolfi, now 32 and out of custody, pleaded guilty Tuesday to criminal negligence causing death, one of the four charges police laid three months after Sakina's death. Charges of manslaughter, assault causing bodily harm and failing to provide the necessities of life will be withdrawn, Crown lawyer Jason Gorda said outside court.

"Sabrina acknowledges … that she was responsible for her daughter's well-being and failed to take reasonable steps to seek care for her," Gorda had told Justice Ian Nordheimer.

The toddler's body had several bruises and abrasions, the court heard, most of them inflicted less than three days before her death.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Injuries

- The injuries included at least 24 bruises to her back, many abrasions and a bite mark on her lower limbs, and a healing fracture on her right ribs.
- Gorda said the post-mortem found the child died from heat stroke — the temperature in the apartment was recorded as 31.5C — but the previous injuries compromised her health.

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Investigation. Police look into six overnight sex assaults in Etobicoke

The Toronto police Sex Crimes Unit is investigating a number of sexual assaults that occurred overnight in Etobicoke.

Insp. Gerry Cashman said somebody broke into six homes between midnight and 5 a.m. The suspect sexually assaulted women in some of these homes. The women's ages vary widely. In some homes, thefts occurred.

"We want him off the streets as quickly as possible," said Cashman. "We consider him to be a very, very serious offender and we want him off the streets."

The assaults happened in the region bounded by Bloor St. W., Islington Ave., The Queensway and the Humber River. Cashman said the suspect did not just break into women's homes, but "a multitude of homes."

Nobody was hospitalized as a result of the assaults, Cashman said. Police won't confirm the ages of the victims, or how the suspect broke into their homes.

Officers are canvassing the area and speaking to homeowners. They will be stationed in the neighbourhood 24 hours a day now.

Insp. Gerry Cashman
STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"Police are doing everything possible to identify who's responsible," said Const. Tony Vella. "Officers are interviewing a number of witnesses as well as the victims."

During the overnight search for the suspect, York Regional Police assisted with an aerial search and Toronto police brought in its K9 unit.

The suspect is described as a slim male, about six feet tall. Police are urging him to get a lawyer and turn himself in.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

SIU. Charges dropped against officer in head-on collision

Ontario's police watchdog says there are no reasonable grounds to charge a Toronto police officer in a head-on collision that left a woman and the officer himself seriously injured.

The Special Investigations Unit says the accident occurred while the officer was driving a marked police cruiser in the city's east end on Aug. 23.

The officer had activated his siren and was on his way to an officer-assist call when he collided with the female motorist after she crossed the centre line of the road.

Sharon Lamonday, 57, sustained several fractures and the officer suffered a fractured and dislocated pelvis.

SIU director Ian Scott says the officer was responding to a call and lawfully executing his duties and so was exempt from the speed limit requirements at the time. Scott adds the officer should not be held criminally liable since it was Lamonday who crossed the centre line in front of the cruiser.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Taken into consideration

The SIU interviewed one witness officer and seven civilian witnesses as part of the probe. Video footage from the police cruiser's dashboard camera was also used as part of the investigation.

- The injured officer was not interviewed nor asked to hand over his notes because he is still in hospital, the agency said.

Lead foot

Police clock car going 222 km/h on Highway 401

A Kitchener man has been charged with driving at more than twice the speed limit west of Port Hope.

Provincial police were conducting aircraft enforcement on Highway 401 on Monday when officers spotted a vehicle and alerted police on the highway.

Officers on the ground clocked a black Chevy Cobalt allegedly driving at a speed of 222 km/h.

Matthew Lichty, 30, has been charged with dangerous operation of a motor vehicle and possession of marijuana under 30 grams.

He is scheduled to appear in court in Cobourg on Nov. 7. Police also impounded his vehicle and suspended his driver's licence for seven days. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hawa Aden Mohamed, better known as "Mama Hawa," returned to her strife-riven homeland of Somalia in 1995 to launch an education and vocational centre. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Mama Hawa hailed with refugee award

United Nations. Hawa Aden Mohamed left Toronto to launch an education and vocational centre in her native Somalia

Quoted

"I feel very sad when I see the displaced. We always say there is hope; we should not lose our hope, our torch of life. We say this, but in reality, it's very difficult, especially for women and children."

Hawa Aden Mohamed

Hawa Aden Mohamed traded a safe life in Toronto for war-torn Somalia because she was determined to see education transform the lives of girls and women in her homeland.

A former refugee herself, Mohamed, better known as "Mama Hawa," packed up with her husband in 1995 and returned to her strife-riven homeland to launch an education and vocational centre.

On Tuesday, Mohamed was named winner of the United Nations' 2012 Nansen Refugee Award for her "exceptional, tireless and inspiring humanitarian work for Somalia's refugee and displaced girls and women, work performed under incredibly difficult and challenging circumstances in a country battered by decades of violence, conflict and human rights abuses."

"My father was special when it comes to girls," said Mohamed, 63, speaking by phone from a hospital in Kenya where she is recovering from brain surgery. "I remember the elders, his friends, asking: 'Why do you want to send your girls to school?' And my father used to say, 'Leave my girls alone.'"

After earning a teacher's diploma in Mogadishu, she studied in India for her bachelor and master's degrees in child development and food science.

For 13 years, she was director of the women's education department with the Somali government, before civil war broke out and forced her to flee.

Mohamed settled in Toronto in 1991 and worked for Women's Health in Women's Hands, on educating immigrant Somali women about female genital mutilation. Her work earned her Ontario's Woman of the Year Award in 1994.

Her desire to effect change motivated her return to Somalia in 1995, when she set up the Juba Women's Education Centre to teach women life skills and awareness of their rights. But she was forced to leave four years later, when Kismayo became a battleground for clan-based militias.

She then started a new centre in Galkayo.

Mohamed plans to spend the entire $100,000 US award on the centre's operations.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Premier wants proof of mob in Ontario politics

Premier Dalton McGuinty
THE CANADIAN PRESS

If there is evidence organized crime has a firm grip in Ontario's politics and economy, Premier Dalton McGuinty said he wants to hear about it — and not through the media.

Former RCMP chief superintendent Ben Soave told a French national television network that organized crime has infiltrated Ontario at least as much as it has in Quebec, if not more.

Ontario has the same organized crime groups involved in corruption, and they are probably even more active than in Quebec, he said.

But if there is any truth to such allegations, McGuinty said he wants to know about it.

"If there are serious and warranted allegations they need to be made in a substantive way, not through the media," he said Tuesday at the International Plowing Match in Ayr, Ont.

"I would expect that people in positions among our police services would be drawing this to our attention at the earliest possible opportunity."

Soave retired from the RCMP in 2005 and is now the head of a private risk-management consulting company. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Dubai's iconic Burj Khalifa skyscraper — standing more than 828 metres tall with more than 160 storeys — towers over the city's modern skyline. ALI ZAFAR/METRO

Freedom of speech meets an Orwellian reproach inside a Middle East newsroom, as Metro copy editor Ali Zafar discovered while working as a reporter for an English-language paper in Dubai

UAE decree widens gulf between news, propaganda

ALI ZAFAR
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As a Canadian journalist heading to the Middle East to work for a local newspaper, I expected to face some censorship.

But I got more than I bargained for when I left my post in April as a copy editor for Metro in Toronto to take up a four-month-long stint as a city reporter for the Khaleej Times, an English-language newspaper in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE).

It began with paragraphs of text conspicuously missing from a story I wrote citing reports that the Saudi Grand Mufti, Sheikh Abdulaziz Al al-Shaikh, the highest authority on Islamic affairs in neighbouring Saudi Arabia, called for the destruction of all churches in the Arabian Peninsula, which is where the UAE is located.

"The grand mufti is off limits," one of the editors told me when I approached him with my story in shambles.

I quickly learned that the mufti wasn't the only subject matter I was to never write about.

The UAE's territorial dispute with Iran — located across the Persian Gulf — over the ownership of several islands also led to a clampdown on stories.

Suddenly, we weren't allowed to call the body of water straddling the UAE the Persian Gulf anymore, as it has been referred to for more than 2,000 years.

It's the Arabian Gulf.

And punishment for misusing the term was swift: We'd be likely fired and subsequently deported as everyone in the newsroom at the time was an expatriate. Unfortunately, a web editor who accidentally let the term Persian Gulf pass through on an online story was put on leave without pay.

I didn't see him in the newsroom again.

If getting rid of the online editor didn't hit home the message, an email — written in all-caps — sent out by the executive editor (also an expatriate) to the entire newsroom made it clear to "NEVER EVER USE THE PERSIAN GULF. It is always ARABIAN GULF."

The email went on to say that "nothing derogatory about the UAE should be allowed to appear at any cost," in the online comments section of the newspaper.

Reporters were also told to "not write stories that will damage the image of the UAE."

I was stunned.

It had only been a bit over a month since my move to Dubai and here I was feeling like Winston from George Orwell's 1984.

I began seeing Dubai in a different light while driving home that day.

Everything had an Orwellian aura to it, from Dubai Ruler Sheikh Mohammed's massive portraits plastered across the city, to the unflinching and often forced love the majority of Emiratis — the locals of the UAE — have for their country's leaders.

This archaic sense of freedom of expression sharply contrasts with Dubai's over-the-top modernity, which is characterized by superlatives.

The world's biggest mall and tallest building are located in Dubai, not to mention the plethora of glistening skyscrapers rising out of the desert.

But while the city's appearance has launched it well into the 21st century, its lack of freedom of speech leaves a void that makes you wonder if all the glitz is nothing more than a mirage in the sand.

Women walk through one of Old Dubai's many souks, or markets, which sharply contrast with the city's state-of-the-art malls. ALI ZAFAR/METRO

Facts about UAE & Dubai

- While the UAE is conservative compared to the West, it's noticeably more progressive than its neighbour Saudi Arabia. Women are allowed to drive in the UAE and there are several churches and Hindu temples.
- The state religion is Islam and Arabic is the official language, although you can get by on English and, on many occasions, Urdu or Hindi in the urban centres.
- Alcohol is served in most tourist hot spots and you often hear the Islamic call to prayer not far from the blaring sound of the many nightclubs in Dubai.
- UAE is composed of seven emirates or states, with each emirate having its own monarch or sheikh.
- The country was formed on Dec. 2, 1971, by the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, considered to be the founding father of the UAE.

- The latest statistics show the UAE has a population of 8.19 million, with 16.5 per cent, or nearly a million of them, Emiratis — making it a country overtaken by expatriates.
- Although there is no legal dress code in the UAE, there has been a recent push by Emiratis to call for more stringent rules on what's deemed appropriate public attire. It's recommended for women to keep arms covered to the elbows, avoid low-cut tops, and wear skirts below the knee. Men should never be bare-chested on city streets and need to avoid wearing sleeveless shirts. At the beach, however, these rules don't apply as you'll see both men and women in swimwear.
- Public displays of affection are frowned upon and a kiss on the lips can lead you to the police station. There have been cases of couples being jailed, fined and subsequently deported for kissing in public.

ALI ZAFAR/METRO

England

Fugitive allegedly kills two officers

Two unarmed officers were gunned down by a wanted fugitive in the Manchester area of northern England on Tuesday, police alleged.

Chief Const. Peter Fahy says that Fiona Bone — a 32-year-old who was planning her wedding — and Nicola Hughes, 23, died shortly after the gunman opened fire and set off a grenade in Hattersley, a suburb about 16 kilometres from central Manchester.

The man alleged to have carried out the killings, 29-year-old Dale Cregan, surrendered at a local police station shortly after the incident and was booked on suspicion of murder. Cregan had already been the focus of a manhunt as a suspect in two murders last month.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Discovery

Ancient text refers to Jesus's wife

A Harvard University professor has unveiled a fourth-century fragment of papyrus that she says is the only existing ancient text that quotes Jesus explicitly referring to having a wife.

Karen King, an expert in the history of Christianity, says the text contains a dialogue in which Jesus refers to "my wife," whom he identified as Mary. King says the fragment of Coptic script is a copy of a gospel, probably written in Greek in the second century.

King unveiled the fragment of the "Gospel of Jesus's Wife" in Rome on Tuesday. She says it doesn't prove Jesus was married but speaks to issues of family that faced Christians.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Labour dispute

Chicago teachers to return to classes

Chicago's teachers agreed Tuesday to return to the classroom after more than a week on the picket lines, ending a spiteful stalemate with Mayor Rahm Emanuel that put teacher evaluations and job security at the centre of a national debate about the future of public education.

Union delegates voted to formally suspend the strike after discussing details of a proposed contract settlement worked out over the weekend. Classes could resume as early as Wednesday.

The contract will now be submitted to a vote by the full membership of more than 25,000 teachers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Official mulls regulation for parties' voter databanks

The federal election watchdog is examining whether regulations are needed to control the use — and abuse — of the voter-identification databanks assembled by political parties.

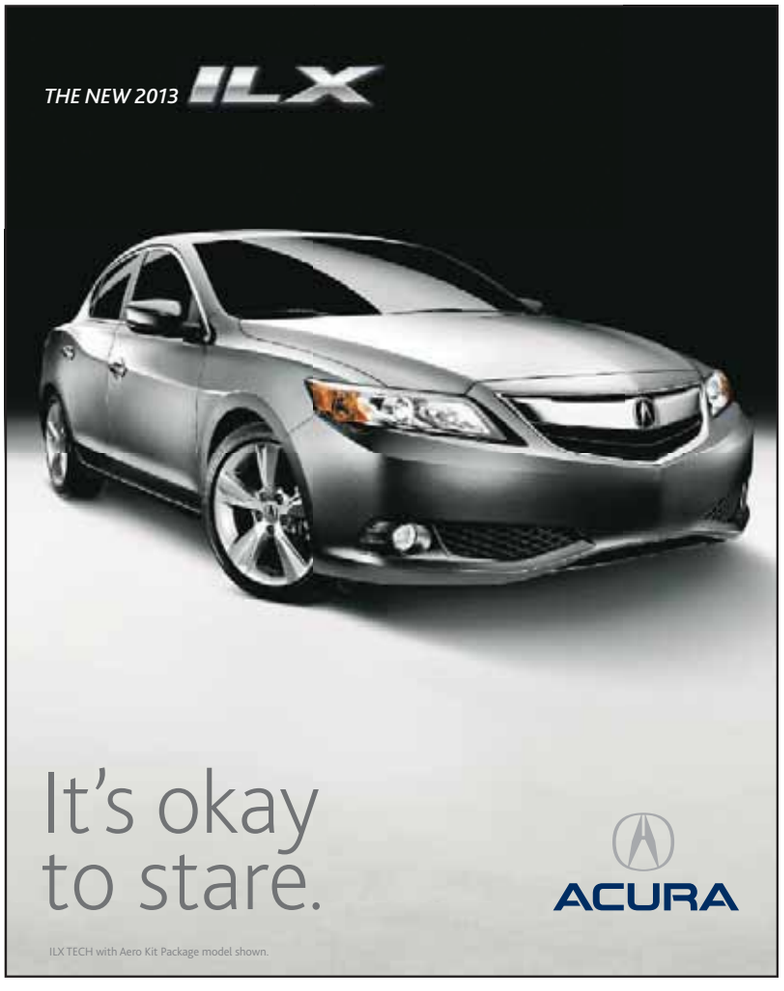
Chief electoral officer Marc Mayrand acknowledged Tuesday that technology has enabled politicians to communicate with and engage voters more easily.

But it's also had a downside, as the so-called robocall affair has exposed.

Elections Canada has received almost 1,400 complaints from voters who say they received automated calls misdirecting them to polling stations for the 2011 election.

Court documents have revealed that the ongoing investigation appears to centre on the Ontario riding of Guelph, though the agency has received complaints from voters in 234 of the country's 308 federal ridings.

Mayrand says he'll report to Parliament by the end of March with recommendations on how to improve election law to prevent the abuse of technology, such as automated phone messages. THE CANADIAN PRESS



Diane Klich, who attempted to cycle across Canada to raise money for children with cancer but broke her collarbone, is undeterred. ALEKSANDRA SAGAN/FOR METRO

Hurt cyclist still eager to go that extra mile for kids

Cross-Canada ride. Woman suffered broken collarbone while raising money for cancer research

Diane Klich was supposed to be cycling another gruelling leg of a 7,000-km journey across Canada today, raising money for children with cancer. Instead, she ended up in hospital after a road accident ended her ride.

While the crash broke her collarbone, her spirit remains intact and she is determined to continue fundraising and eventually finish the trip.

"Me going through one surgery at the age of 37 and my first broken bone is nothing in comparison to what these kids go through," said Klich, her right arm tightly fastened to her chest. "They go through hundreds of treatments and surgeries. Their childhoods are robbed from them."

A newbie cyclist, Klich embarked on the ride with more than 20 others after she realized how cancer has affected so many people in her life. She trained all summer for the 17-day event. But last Friday, near Sudbury, two men in her tightly travelling pack fell in front of her.

"I knew I was going down," she said. "There wasn't a lot of wiggle room where I was."

She suffered a compound fracture in her collarbone and was forced to return home and await surgery. All this, one week before she was due to cross the finish line in Halifax.

Although she was devastated to abandon the once-in-a-lifetime ride, she says, she knew she had achieved her primary goal.

"We were out there to raise awareness and we were out there to raise money, and I did both of those things."

Each national rider is responsible for raising $25,000 for the Coast to Coast Against Cancer Foundation. The organization donates 100 per cent of the proceeds to fund cancer research at Canada's pediatric facilities.

So far, Klich has raised more than $73,000 and she is not ready to stop. She has organized two "Inside Ride" events at schools in the fall where kids will cycle on stationary bikes. The proceeds will be added to her fundraising total. Next year, she hopes to complete another four-day cycling event for the organization.

There is also the possibility of "finishing" the cross-Canada cycle next summer, she says. Relay racers often join the other riders for shorter portions of the journey. Klich is considering cycling the Barrie-to-Halifax leg next year — the portion her injury derailed her from.

ALEKSANDRA SAGAN/FOR METRO

Race 101

- Thirty-one national riders signed up to bike across Canada from Sept. 5 to 21.
- The 17-day ride started in White Rock, B.C., and finishes in Halifax.
- National riders cycle relay-style in two teams. Each biker covers about 150 to 250 km of ground daily, depending on the team.

Windsor. Cash trail trips up alleged thief

Windsor police arrested an alleged thief on Sunday after following a trail of loose change from a cash drawer.

Police were called to a business at around 6:30 a.m. An employee had heard the sound of glass breaking at the front of the building and decided to investigate. When he got there, he saw a man with a cash drawer from the register. The man ran into the parking lot, got on the employee's bicycle and fled the scene.

The employee tried to chase after him but stopped after being threatened.

A short time later, a witness called to report that they'd seen a man riding a bicycle and holding a cash drawer. The witness saw the man run into a home with loose change falling out of the drawer along the way, according to police.

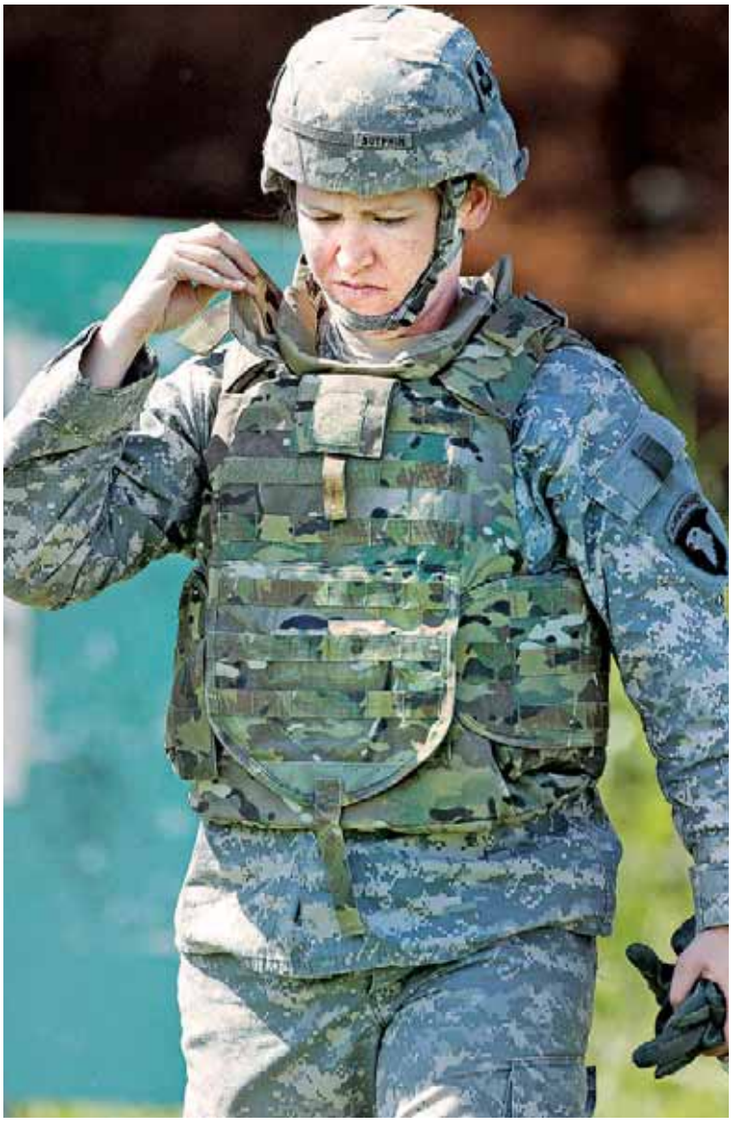
A trail of change led police in Windsor to an alleged thief. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

When officers arrived, they found change littering the front of the home. Police were speaking to the homeowner at the front door when another resident emerged to tell officers someone was hiding in a bedroom closet.

Police headed inside and found a man hiding under a sheet in a closet, with the cash drawer in hand.

Donald Meloche, 42, is charged with break-and-enter, theft, uttering threats, possession of stolen property and unlawfully being in a dwelling.

PHOEBE HO/FOR METRO



Fashion for a war zone

She's all dressed up and ready for battle. Spec. Sarah Sutphin adjusts her new body armour while training Tuesday on a firing range in Fort Campbell, Ky. Female soldiers from the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division, are field-testing the first Army body armour designed to fit women's physiques. It's a necessary preparation for their deployment to Afghanistan this fall. MARK HUMPHREY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Protesters mark Occupy anniversary with a melee

Police encircled. Both sides blame each other as event unravels in violence on Winnipeg's busy Portage Avenue

Police and protesters blamed each other Tuesday for a scuffle that erupted during a march marking the one-year anniversary of the Occupy movement.

One man was arrested and taken to a hospital after police in Winnipeg moved in on Monday evening and quickly found themselves encircled.

There are two versions of what happened next: protesters say officers got heavy-handed, but a police spokesperson says they were facing an unruly crowd.

"Officers were in the process of taking a male into custody when they were swarmed," Patrol Sgt. Wally Antoniuk said Tuesday.

"As a result, a Winnipeg Police Service member was physically assaulted. The male police were arresting escaped custody as a result of the assault."

The encounter was partially captured on video by a protester who streamed the event online.

Police are seen asking the protesters, who totalled a few dozen, who their leader was.

They also ordered them to get off Winnipeg's busy Portage Avenue and onto a sidewalk.

As officers started taking one man near the head of the parade into custody, other protesters stood around them.

Police are seen turning their attention to the man accused of shoving the officer. As they lead him to a police cruiser, he goes limp.

Harold Shuster, one of the organizers of the protest, said the man suffered a panic attack.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"Now I never saw a Taser. I didn't see anything that would lead me to that conclusion."

Ken Harasym, who videotaped the event, talking about the man who went limp as police moved in.

Aftermath

Marchers admit: No permit

Protesters said the event would have been peaceful had police not intervened.

"I'm trying to understand ... why they chose to become immediately belligerent and try to force us off the street," said Harold Shuster, one of the protest organizers.

Both sides agree the protesters did not have a permit to stage the march down Portage Avenue, one of the city's busiest roads.

"I suppose by the letter of the law (the protest) was illegal because you do need a permit.

"But there have been two other situations where ... people have taken to the street without a permit and where the police have become involved, they have chosen ... the wiser choice, the mediating role," Shuster said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tears of relief as judge OKs sex change surgery

A convicted murderer in Massachusetts says a judge's decision to grant her request for sex-reassignment surgery is "the right thing to do."

U.S. District Judge Mark Wolf ruled the surgery is the only adequate treatment for Michelle Kosilek's gender-identity disorder.

The condition, he said, is a "serious medical need."

The ruling marks the first time a judge has ordered prison officials to provide sex-reassignment surgery.

But Wolf's ruling prompted an outcry among some legislative leaders, who say Kosilek isn't entitled to the taxpayer-funded surgery.

Convicted killer Robert — now Michelle — Kosilek in 1993. LISA BUL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kosilek said she cried tears of relief after learning of the judge's ruling.

Kosilek has waged a decades-long battle to complete the transformation from a man into a woman.

"This is who I am. My essence is female," Kosilek declared.

Kosilek was named Robert when married to Cheryl Kosilek and was convicted of killing her in 1990.

In his ruling, Wolf found that the Department of Correction had violated Kosilek's Eighth Amendment right to adequate medical care.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Reforms needed'

Deacon backs Pussy Riot trio

Sergei Baranov believes he will never again wear his clerical robes inside a Russian Orthodox Church.

Baranov, a deacon in Tambov, Russia, became a celebrity last month when he asked to be defrocked because he was outraged by the church's stance against the punk band Pussy Riot.

The feminist rockers were sentenced to two years in prison after singing a "punk prayer" against President Vladimir Putin in Moscow's main cathedral.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Putin's pet peeve. Blow for Obama as U.S. pulls aid agency out of Russia

The United States said Tuesday it's ending the U.S. Agency for International Development's operations in Russia.

The move comes after a Kremlin demand that the aid organization leave the country.

And it deals a blow to U.S. President Barack Obama's policy of "resetting" relations between Washington and Moscow.

State Department spokesperson Victoria Nuland said Russia sent a letter last week saying it did not need Washington's help anymore.

Quoted

"We remain committed to supporting ... the development of a more robust civil society in Russia."

U.S. official Victoria Nuland

Russian President Vladimir Putin has long complained about U.S. democracy and human rights promotion efforts. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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High hopes. Trading up from $30 camera, man targets Tesla roadster

The dream of owning a Tesla roadster is $12,000 closer for Ottawa's Martin Provost after he set out to swap from a $30 digital camera to the $125,000 eco-friendly sports car two years ago.

"Especially with the economy, people are getting more creative about how to acquire what they need," said Provost, who uses swap site swapsity.ca to make trades, along with Kijiji and Craigslist. "It's better than taking out your credit card all the time."

With two young children at home, Provost said his financial priority wasn't to get the electric roadster, but he remembered the story of Canadian blogger Kyle MacDonald, who bartered his way to a house starting with a red paperclip in 2005.

"I wanted to work my way up to my dream car," he said. Now 10 trades deep into his mission, Provost's latest move saw him swap two HD video cameras, designed for extreme sports, with Ryan Holmes, CEO of social media company HootSuite.

With the video cameras valued at $1,000, the trade is Provost's biggest since he snagged a $12,000 HootSuite enterprise suite for companies that want to expand their social media portfolio.

"There's one challenge," Provost said. "It's hard to find connections to a company that would take advantage of a package like that. It would have to be a large company looking to break into social media."

Still, he hopes that big ticket items will mean larger and faster trades. "I do have a lot of work to do," he said. "I have to multiply my value to the power of 10."

Letting go of some of the trades has been hard, Provost admits. "There were a few items I wanted to keep, like the brewery tour at Beau's. I wanted to do that with my friends, but I have to stick with my end goal."

GRAHAM LANKTREE/METRO IN OTTAWA

Fast mail

Canada Post van impounded

No longer will Canada Post be known as snail mail to police in West Vancouver. The department says it impounded a postal van for seven days after catching the driver allegedly going 135 kilometres per hour in a 90-kilometre zone on Monday. Police say the van was travelling on the Trans-Canada Highway when the driver was pulled over. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Oscars

Rebelle to represent Canada

Montreal-born filmmaker Kim Nguyen's child-soldier drama Rebelle will be Canada's entry in this year's foreign-language Oscar race. Newcomer Rachel Mwanza plays a teen forced to fight with, and become a sex slave for, a rebel commander in Sub-Saharan Africa. The 15-year-old was abandoned by her parents and used to live on the streets of the Congo. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Finally, a Facebook status worth liking

Initiative. Facebook Canada says 275,000 users have registered for feature allowing users to state their intent to donate organs

JOE LOFARO
Metro in Ottawa

Double lung transplant recipient Helene Campbell helped announce the launch Tuesday of a new feature that allows Canadian Facebook users to share their intention to become organ donors right on their Facebook timeline.

The service first launched in the U.S. and U.K. in May and has since expanded to 12 more countries.

Jordan Banks, managing director of Facebook Canada, said there have been more than 275,000 registrations to date.

"We believe that simply by telling people that you care about that you are, in fact, a donor, this power of sharing and this power of connection can play an important role in raising awareness for organ donation and encouraging others as well to become organ donors," said Banks.

Leona Aglukkaq, Canada's minister of health, joined Banks and Campbell in the announcement at a press conference in Ottawa.

Campbell applauded the move by Facebook and said the most important thing when it comes to organ donation is sharing.

"Something like this is exactly what we need," Campbell said.

"This is my generation now. My generation is social media. Why not use it for the better and the greater good?"

There are more than 4,500 people in Canada who are waiting for vital organs like hearts, livers, and kidneys, the minister said, adding that despite Canada's efforts, their needs are not being met.

"I invite all Canadians on Facebook to take a moment to consider becoming a donor and to make a decision that can save up to eight lives," said Aglukkaq.

Facebook said people who use the feature can share their story of why they decided to become organ donors.

Users who aren't registered can find more information about becoming a donor with their provincial donor registry.

Double lung transplant recipient Helene Campbell smiles during a news conference in Ottawa on Tuesday announcing Facebook would allow users to indicate their donor status. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The new wave

"This is my generation now. Why not use it for the better and the greater good?"

Helene Campbell

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Visit to U.S. Suu Kyi says she supports easing of remaining sanctions

Myanmar democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi began her landmark visit to Washington by declaring Tuesday that she supports the easing of the remaining U.S. economic sanctions on her country.

She was speaking after meeting with Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton at the U.S. State Department at the start of a 17-day trip.

"I do support the easing of sanctions because I think that our people must start to take responsibility for their own destiny," Suu Kyi said. "We should not depend on U.S. sanctions to keep up the momentum for democracy. We have got to work at it ourselves."

Clinton voiced concern over the continued detention of political prisoners and ethnic violence. She also said military ties persist with North Korea that Washington wants Myanmar to sever. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Helped the cause

Aung San Suu Kyi's categorical support for easing sanctions increases the likelihood the U.S. will do so — possibly during the visit by President Thein Sein, who arrives in the U.S. next week to attend the UN General Assembly's annual gathering of world leaders in New York.

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, right, meets with Myanmar democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi at the State Department on Tuesday in Washington. EVAN VUCCI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Myanmar prisoners

Government not sincere: Activists

Myanmar's limited releases of political prisoners show it is insincere in its much-lauded democratic reforms and is using its hundreds of detainees to gain further concessions by Western nations, activists said Tuesday.

The latest amnesty announced Monday covers more than 500 prisoners, but less than one-fifth are political detainees. Opposition groups and rights activists say Myanmar still holds several hundred political prisoners.

The opposition party led by Aung San Suu Kyi said it confirmed at least 87 political detainees were among the 514 prisoners granted amnesty. President Thein Sein's government has made freedom for political prisoners a centrepiece of its reform policies. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

China protests mix old anger against Japan with new dispute

Not routine. Chinese ire over Tokyo buying contested islands boils over on anniversary of separate 1931 incident

Old wounds amplified outrage over a burning territorial dispute Tuesday as thousands of Chinese protested Tokyo's purchase of islands claimed by Beijing and marked the 81st anniversary of a Japanese invasion that China has never forgotten.

China marks every Sept. 18 by blowing sirens to remember a 1931 incident that Japan used as a pretext to invade Manchuria, setting off a brutal occupation of China that ended only at the close of World War II.

Outside the Japanese Embassy in Beijing, thousands of protesters shouted patriotic slogans and demanded boycotts of Japanese goods. Some burned Japanese flags and threw apples, water bottles and eggs at the embassy, which was heavily guarded by three layers of paramilitary police and metal barricades.

Protests also took place in Guangzhou, Wenzhou, Shanghai and other Chinese cities. Japan's Kyodo News agency reported protests in at least 100 cities, and said people threw bricks and rocks at the Japanese Consulate in Shenyang in China's northeast. However, Shenyang police said by telephone there was no unrest.

China's authoritarian government rarely allows protests, and the wave of anti-Japanese demonstrations clearly received a degree of official approval.

Many Japanese businesses across China shut their doors as a precaution following recent protests that turned violent and saw the torching and looting of Japanese-invested factories and shops. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Frustration

"We believe we need to declare war on them because the Japanese devils are too evil. Down with little Japan!"

Wang Guoming, a retired soldier who said he came from 600 kilometres away to vent his frustration

An anti-Japan protester is dragged to a police station after he scuffled with police officers as he tried to march toward the Japanese Consulate General Tuesday in Shanghai on the 81st anniversary of a Japanese invasion that brought a new wave of protests in China. EUGENE HOSHIKO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lighter sentence for ex-top cop?

China signalled Tuesday it will be lenient with a former police chief enmeshed in a political scandal roiling the country's leadership, saying he co-operated with investigators who brought down a top Chinese politician's wife for the murder of a British businessman.

Tuesday's conclusion of Wang Lijun's trial brings Chinese leaders a step closer to resolving a scandal that exposed seamy infighting and buffeted a delicate transfer of power to new leaders expected to take place in the coming weeks. Wang sparked the turbulent affair with a dramatic flight to the U.S. Consulate in Chengdu in February where he divulged information about the murder, resulting in the removal of his boss, Bo Xilai, once a political high-flyer vying for a top job.

In laying the ground for a lenient sentence for Wang, Chinese leaders, who control the justice system, appear to have reached agreement over the thorniest issue — how to deal with Bo, said Willy Lam of Chinese University of Hong Kong. Leaders must decide whether to expel Bo from the party and prosecute him, and differences are believed to have delayed the announcement of dates for a Communist Party congress to install the new leadership.

"It appears that a deal has already been struck that Bo Xilai will be spared heavy punishment. That's why people associated with Bo … are also getting considerably light treatment," Lam said.

Official accounts of Wang's trial that were closed to all but selected state media provided a few new details about the scandal. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Damage control

In a sign Chinese leaders want to contain the damage, neither the official court summary nor state media reports of the trial mentioned Bo Xilai.

- The son of a deceased prominent revolutionary veteran, Bo retains influence among Chinese party elders, senior officials and military commanders.

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Surgery. Doctors claim first mother-daughter uterus transplant

Two Swedish women are hoping to get pregnant after undergoing what doctors are calling the world's first mother-to-daughter uterus transplants.

Specialists at the University of Goteborg said they performed the surgery over the weekend without complications but added that they won't consider it successful unless the women give birth to healthy children.

"That's the best proof," said Michael Olausson, one of the surgeons.

One of the unidentified women had her uterus removed many years ago because of cervical cancer, while the other was born without a womb. Both are in their 30s.

They will undergo a year of observation before doctors attempt to help them get pregnant via in vitro fertilization. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Past procedures

- **Unsuccessful.** In 2000, doctors in Saudi Arabia transplanted a uterus from a live donor, but it had to be removed three months later because of a blood clot.

Anti-corruption

Cops search McGill University offices

Quebec's anti-corruption squad searched the offices of the McGill University Health Centre on Tuesday looking for information related to the awarding of a contract for a new super hospital. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mexico

Some inmates in tunnel escape found

Officials said Tuesday they have found three inmates thought to have escaped through a tunnel at a northern Mexico border prison, lowering the number of escaped prisoners to 129. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

William and Kate win court case over topless photos

Prince William, Duke of Cambridge, and Kate, Duchess of Cambridge, drink coconut milk on Tuesday from a tree planted by the Queen in 1982 in the Polynesian island nation of Tuvalu. ARTHUR EDWARDS/GETTY IMAGES

Too late. The photos are already on the Internet and have been published in France, Italy and Ireland

Prince William and Kate's aggressive legal strategy over topless photos of Britain's likely future queen is the first salvo in what could be a decades-long tug-of-war over their family's privacy.

A French court ruled in favour of the royal couple on Tuesday in their fight over the photos, but the scope of that ruling will be limited.

The unauthorized topless photos of Kate have already been widely published in France, Italy, Ireland and on the Internet — lessening the impact of Tuesday's court injunction against future publication inside France.

The revealing pictures will follow Kate for the rest of her life — not unlike the snapshots of her appearance in a charity fashion show wearing black lingerie and a sheer dress during her university days.

"Clearly, the harm has been done," said Christopher Mesnooh, an American lawyer working in France for Field Fisher Waterhouse.

"Thousands, now tens of thousands of copies, are now in public circulation.

"A legal decision is a wonderful thing to obtain and the royal couple did exactly what they should have done.

"But you know the magazine is out there and I suspect most of you have already seen copies of that magazine, so the basic, the initial harm, has been done." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In the public realm

"Thousands, now tens of thousands of copies, are now in public circulation."

Christopher Mesnooh,
American lawyer in France

Death toll over anti-Islam film rises as unrest continues

Demos, riots, bomb. U.S.-produced film depicts Muhammad as a fraud, womanizer and pedophile

Al-Qaida's branch in North Africa on Tuesday called for attacks on U.S. diplomats and an escalation of protests against an anti-Islam video that was produced in the United States and triggered a wave of demonstrations and riots in the Middle East and beyond.

While demonstrations have tapered off in nations including Egypt and Tunisia, protests against the film turned violent in Pakistan and Indian-controlled Kashmir and hundreds of people rallied in Indonesia and Thailand. Some 400 people protested peacefully outside the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand's capital. Protesters carried signs and banners saying, "We love Prophet Muhammad" and "Stop insulting our religion," and chanted, "Down with America" and "Down with Israel."

In Kabul a suicide bomber rammed a car packed with explosives into a mini-bus carrying South African aviation workers to the airport, killing at least 12 people in an attack that a militant group said was revenge for the film "Innocence of Muslims," which was made by an Egyptian-born American citizen.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai said the attack killed eight South Africans, three Afghans and a Kyrgyzstani.

In Indonesia, about 200 people from various Islamic groups torched an American flag and tires outside the U.S. Consulate in the third largest city of Medan. Some unfurled banners saying, "Go to hell America."

Appearing on David Letterman's show Tuesday night U.S. President Barack Obama said the filmmaker behind the anti-Islam film is a "shadowy character."

The president added that Ambassador Stevens was beloved by a vast majority of Libyans.

U.S. officials describe the video as offensive, but the American government's protection of free speech rights has clashed with the anger of Muslims abroad. Google has blocked access to the video in Libya, Egypt, Indonesia and India.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Innocence of Muslims'

28

Twelve more protesters died in riots in several countries, bringing the total number of deaths linked to the film to at least 28. That includes Christopher Stevens, the U.S. ambassador to Libya, and three other Americans killed in an attack there.

Film clashes in Jerusalem

Masked Palestinians help a colleague during clashes with Israeli security forces, not pictured, in Shuafat refugee camp, Jerusalem, on Tuesday. Clashes erupted after a demonstration against a film that ridicules Muhammad. BERNAT ARMANGUE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jordan

Law puts online expression at risk: Critics

Jordan's king has endorsed a controversial new media law that critics say could severely stifle online expression.

The law requires 400 news websites operated by Jordanians to register with the government and obtain licenses. It also gives authorities the power to block and censor the sites, and holds publishers and editors liable for posted comments.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Egypt

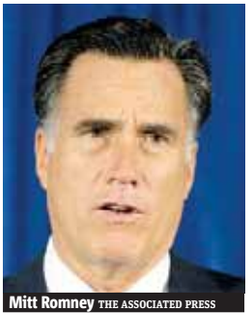
Teacher jailed for Facebook posting

A court in southern Egypt has sentenced a Coptic Christian teacher to six years in prison for posting on his Facebook page drawings that it ruled insulted the Prophet Muhammad and comments deemed offensive to the country's president. Beshoi el-Behiri had denied the charges.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Romney fires back: 'People would like to be paying taxes'

Videos released. Republican explains his remarks about 'dependent' voters, while footage of him claiming Palestinians have no interest in Mideast peace surfaces


Mitt Romney THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Another day, another disaster for Mitt Romney's presidential campaign.

A day after an undercover video that shows him deriding Barack Obama voters as government freeloaders and lifelong victims, additional footage of the Republican telling donors that Palestinians "have no interest" in peace with Israel and suggesting that efforts at Mideast peace under his administration would languish surfaced on Tuesday morning.

The video clips were both posted on the website of Mother Jones magazine. The magazine said they are both from a $50,000-a-plate fundraiser in Boca Raton, Fla., on May 17.

In the latest clip, Romney said Palestinians are "committed to the destruction and elimination of Israel" and that the prospects for a two-state solution to Mideast peace were dim.

"You hope for some degree of stability, but you recognize that this is going to remain an unsolved problem, and we kick the ball down the field and hope that ultimately, somehow, something will happen and resolve it," Romney said.

Romney has not addressed his remarks about the Middle East but he appeared on Fox News to try to explain his remarks about the 47 per cent of Americans who don't pay income tax — most of whom because they don't make enough money.

"I do believe that we should have enough jobs and enough take-home pay such that people have the privilege of higher incomes that allow them to be paying taxes," Romney said Tuesday. "I think people would like to be paying taxes."

Not surprisingly, Obama's re-election team pounced.

"It's hard to serve as president for all Americans when you've disdainfully written off half the nation," said Obama campaign manager Jim Messina.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Obama praises WNBA champion as role models

U.S. President Barack Obama pauses as he speaks during a ceremony honouring WNBA champion Minnesota Lynx on Tuesday in the East Room of the White House in Washington. It's been nearly a year since the Lynx won the championship, but the team's visit was delayed by the Summer Olympics and Obama's busy schedule. Obama told team members they are great ambassadors for the game and strong role models for his own daughters. PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2012 presidential race

O'Reilly, Stewart ready to debate

Pick your pundit when Bill O'Reilly and Jon Stewart face off for a special 90-minute debate about the 2012 presidential race.

The host of Fox News Channel's The O'Reilly Factor and the anchor of Comedy Central's fake newscast The Daily Show with Jon Stewart have announced they will clash in the Oct. 6 event, dubbed The Rumble in the Air-Conditioned Auditorium. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Arizona

Judge allows police to question immigration status

A judge has ruled that police in Arizona can immediately start enforcing the most contentious section of the state's immigration law, marking the first time officers can carry out a requirement that officers, while enforcing other laws, question the immigration status of those suspected of being in the country illegally. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Tubby time! U.S. obesity stats expected to balloon

The fatty forecast. By 2030, half the people in 39 American states will be obese, two groups predict

He's fat and clearly unfit.

Is the man on the right the face of America in the first half of the 21st century?

He could be, according to experts campaigning against obesity.

They predict that by 2030 more than half the people in 39 U.S. states will be obese — not merely overweight, but obese.

Mississippi is expected to retain its crown as the fattest state in the nation for at least two more decades.

The report predicts 67 per cent of that state's adults will be obese by 2030. That would be an astounding increase from Mississippi's current 35 per cent obesity rate.

The data was released on Tuesday by the Trust for America's Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

The dismal forecast goes beyond the 42 per cent national obesity level that federal health officials project by 2030.

Trust for America's Health officials said their projections are based in part on state-by-state surveys by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention from 1999 through 2010.

But their outlook suggests that even in the thinnest state — Colorado, where about one-fifth of residents are obese — 45 per cent are predicted to be obese by 2030. That means that every state would have an obesity rate higher than 44 per cent.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weighty issue

About two-thirds of Americans are overweight now — and that includes the obese, who account for about 36 per cent, figures show.

A dieter? Fat chance. This man walking beside a pool in Brooklyn, New York City, clearly won't appear in the pages of a fitness magazine. But he may be a common sight in 21st.-century America. MARIO TAMA/GETTY IMAGES

Suspect. Does BPA make kids fat? Experts see a link — but can't prove it

A U.S. study suggests a connection between the BPA chemical used in food packaging and childhood obesity.

But researchers say the findings don't prove it's the cause.

While most people have traces of BPA in their bodies, the study found that children with the highest levels were twice as likely to be obese as those with the lowest.

Other factors — unhealthy diet and poor physical activity — could cause obesity, said lead author Dr. Leonardo Trasande of New York University. BPA, or bisphenol A, has been used since the 1960s.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bisphenol A

BPA is used to make hard plastics for food and beverage containers and for metal can linings.

- **Fears.** Some experts say it interferes with children's development. Makers of baby bottles have stopped using it.

10 hours in suitcase

Case closed: Cat came back safely

A U.S. woman says the pet cat that sneaked into her luggage for a flight to Florida has returned home to Ohio safely.

Ethel Maze says Bob-Bob the cat spent 10 hours in a suitcase before she opened it last week.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ethel Maze holds Bob-Bob, who sneaked into a suitcase she was packing. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Amazon river. Bolivian president enacts law protecting dolphins

Bolivian President Evo Morales has enacted a law to protect Amazon river dolphins, which many researchers say are at risk.

The new law bans fishing for the freshwater dolphins and encourages programs to protect them and their habitats, which have been damaged by erosion, pollution and woodcutting in the river basins.

The president announced the law Tuesday along the shores of the Ibare river in Bolivia's Amazon region.

The dolphins are often pink and have longer snouts than their saltwater cousins. They can weigh 65 to 90 pounds. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this Aug. 23 , 2010 photo, a rescued baby river dolphin is cared for by biologists on the Pailas River in Bolivia. DADO GALDIERI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Possible contamination

Ground beef being recalled

A recall of ground beef because of possible E. coli contamination is being called "extensive."

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency says more stores may have sold ground beef from XL Foods of Alberta.

It says the meat was in Loblaws stores in Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and B.C.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

$9.2 million

Cash smugglers caught posing as TV news crew

Eighteen Mexican citizens must stand trial on charges they tried to smuggle about $9.2 million in cash through Nicaragua by posing as members of a Mexican television news crew, a judge ruled Tuesday.

Judge Julio Cesar Arias said there is sufficient evidence to hold the 18 over for their Dec. 3 trial.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vancouver seeking region-wide ban on shark fins

Immoral delicacy.

Councillor says fin fight is not an attack on culture, but the recognition of an ethical issue

KATE WEBB
Metro in Vancouver

Vancouver city staff has been asked by council to try to work with Burnaby, Richmond and maybe Surrey toward a simultaneous, region-wide ban on shark fins.

Spearheading Coun. Kerry Jang, who readily admits he served shark fin soup at his own wedding, said the purpose of his motion is to allay some restaurateurs' fears that bans in their cities will only drive the demand elsewhere.

His motion passed unanimously at city hall on Tuesday.

"A ban on shark fin is not an attack on a culture or a tradition, but really it's a recognition of an ethical issue that affects all of us, no matter who you are or where you're from," Jang said.

"The whole purpose of shark fin is to say 'I honour you, you're a great guy, only the best for you,' however times have changed quite a bit."

Coun. Kerry Jang holds up a shark fin after using it as a prop in the Vancouver City council chamber on Tuesday. Jang showed the fin in an effort to kick off a ban on the sale of shark fins in the lower mainland. JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Jang alleged that serving shark fin soup is more about showing off wealth and prestige these days than it is about honouring guests.

Brandishing two shark fins he scavenged from his mother's closet, Jang said the price of fins has climbed sky high since they were given to her as a gift several decades ago, because of overfishing and the "barbaric" practice of finning.

International animal rights groups estimate that up to 73 million sharks are killed each year, mostly for their fins. The sharks are dumped back into the oceans after their fins are cut off, leaving them to die slow and painful deaths.

Demand

77,000

In 2009 alone, Canada imported 77,000 kilograms of shark fins.

Jang said he will also be in Victoria next week at the annual Union of British Columbia Municipalities convention to support a motion that seeks a province-wide ban on the possession, sale and distribution of shark fin.

Coquitlam, Port Moody, North Vancouver City and Maple Ridge already support shark fin sales bans in their cities. Six cities in Ontario have shark fin bans, including Toronto.

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Classmates Nicole Shrigley, 14, from right, Genevieve Clayton 14, and another student (name withheld by request), steady a muddy field on Tuesday at the International Plowing Match in Roseville, Ont. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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themselves as they make their way across

McGuinty hopes to boost local food sales with proposed bill

Plowing match.
Premier says goal is to 'sit down' with major grocery chains who sell foreign produce

Under fire in rural Ontario for putting horse farms in jeopardy, Premier Dalton McGuinty braved mud at a rain-soaked International Plowing Match to promise legislation aimed at boosting sales of Ontario-grown food.

Still on the drawing board, the bill would "get your products into more places," McGuinty told dozens of farmers crowded into a tent as the skies opened on the site just east of Kitchener.

The NDP brought forward a local food bill two years ago aimed at boosting purchases of Ontario meats and produce by government ministries for their operations.

"Hopefully we're actually setting a real example here and not just playing up to the crowd," New Democrat Leader Andrea Horwath told reporters.

If every Ontario family shifted $10 of their weekly grocery budget to food grown in the province, it would boost home-grown agri-business culture by $2.4 billion a year and create 10,000 new jobs, the minority Liberal government claimed.

"We'd like to see it driven more and more by Ontario families," said McGuinty, noting he'll consult with opposition parties and the industry in developing a bill that will set targets for food production, processing and sales.

One goal is to "sit down" with major grocery chains who often sell U.S. and other foreign produce even though local equivalents are available, such as peaches and nectarines now crowding farmers' markets, McGuinty added.

His remarks came after organizers of the 99th annual plowing match — a major exhibition for rural Ontario in a tent city sprawling across prime farmland — cancelled the parade because muddy roadways made it too dangerous.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Working together

The sloppy conditions made for some interesting vignettes, such as the Green Party tractor hauling a busload of Liberal MPPs out of a gooey rut and three cabinet ministers, Chris Bentley, Kathleen Wynne and Deb Matthews, pushing Progressive Conservative MPP Christine Elliott's new Chevy Cruze out of the ooze.

"That's how minority government can work," a grateful Elliott (Whitby–Oshawa) quipped later.

Rural Ontario

Horse racing industry struggling in Ontario

Conservative Leader Tim Hudak said he was happy to hear of Premier Dalton McGuinty's local food bill after the government hit rural Ontario hard by scrapping a program that shared $345 million annually in proceeds from slot machines with horse racing tracks and breeders.

"I worry the current government has forgotten about rural Ontario," Hudak added, saying his party has been pushing local food efforts for years. "If the premier's finally come around, great."

McGuinty acknowledged scrapping the revenue-sharing program to fight the $14.8-billion deficit has been "difficult" for the horse-racing industry and pointed to a panel of former cabinet ministers from all three parties who are working on a transition plan.

"We're committed to listening and we're committed to getting this right ... we all want a strong and sustainable horse-racing industry," said the premier, whose government lost several rural seats in last October's election, in part due to voter anger about wind turbines.

McGuinty has paid a political price for not listening to rural concerns, particularly on the horse racing issue, said Horwath. "This is something the government did without prior consultation."

McGuinty again signalled the next target in his war on the deficit with public sector wage freezes, now that teachers have been dealt with, will be bureaucrats in the civil service.

"We'll be moving forward with an initiative in the not-too-distant future that will address broader public sector compensation issues," he told reporters. "It's something that we need to do."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Detached homes soar past $800K in GTA

TREB report. A 5.8% drop in housing sales across the country is being attributed to stricter mortgage lending rules

Home sales may be tanking across much of the country, but the price of coveted detached homes in the city of Toronto continues to soar, with the average cost exceeding $800,000.

The price of the average detached home was up 17 per cent in mid-September over the same time last year, hitting $805,308, according to midmonth figures from the Toronto Real Estate Board.

The increases are blamed on the fact there are fewer detached homes for sales than historic norms but unrelenting demand. TREB has blamed this phenomenon on moving costs — including Toronto's unique land transfer tax — which have made moving so prohibitively expensive that homeowners are opting to hang on to their places and do renovations instead.

The average price of a detached home in the suburbs was $563,739 as of mid-September, a relatively small jump of six per cent year over year.

Highrise condos prices were up five per cent in the 416 region to $352,851 in mid-September over September 2011, TREB's figures show, while condo prices dropped two per cent in the 905 regions over the last year to $287,467.

The average price of a GTA house, which includes detached, semis, townhouses and row houses, was $496,786 in mid-September, up 9.5 per cent from mid-September of 2011.

The number of residential property transactions across the GTA was down 15 per cent in mid-September compared to the same period in 2011, with 2,544 transactions instead of the 2,995 recorded, said TREB. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Toronto's detached homes are bucking the latest homes sales dip, with an average cost exceeding $800,000. VINCE TALOTTA/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

Employment

Job vacancies up, unemployed down: StatsCan

Statistics Canada says there were 263,000 job vacancies in June, 20,000 more than in the same month of 2011.

The agency says there were 5.3 unemployed people in Canada for every vacancy, down from 5.8 in June 2011. It says this decline was due to an increase in job vacancies combined with a decline in the number of unemployed.

The highest ratio of unemployed to job vacancies was in Newfoundland and Labrador where there were 10.6 jobless for every vacancy. In contrast, Alberta's ratio of jobless to job vacancies was 1.6, while the Saskatchewan ratio was 1.9. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Germany

Agency warns of IE security breach

The German government agency overseeing IT-safety is warning of a security breach in Microsoft's Internet Explorer. The Federal Office for Information Security warns the code to attack computers running on Windows XP or Windows 7 operating systems through the browser is freely available online. The agency says users of Internet Explorer versions 7, 8 or 9 should switch browsers for now. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Negotiations

GM talks moving along: CAW head

The head of the Canadian Auto Workers union says he is optimistic after a day of constructive talks with General Motors that a new collective agreement can soon be reached. CAW president Ken Lewenza says discussions with GM are more advanced than the talks underway with Chrysler. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Paying double Land Transfer Tax is unfair.

If you're one of the five percent of people moving within the City of Toronto this year, you'll pay City Hall's Land Transfer Tax on top of the Province's, together totalling about **$15,000**, upfront, on average.

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Deal. RIM increases file-size capabilities using Microsoft

Research In Motion has signed a patent licensing agreement with Microsoft Corp. to use the software company's latest file system technology.

The agreement — for which financial terms were not made available — gives RIM access to the latest Extended File Allocation Table technology, which makes the handling of large files easier.

RIM shares gained 2.4 per cent on the Toronto Stock Exchange, closing up 17 cents to $7.24.

As consumers use their smartphones for more and more multimedia applications such as watching and shooting high-definition videos, file sizes are ever growing.

Microsoft says the system expands the size of files that flash memory devices can handle and increases the speed with which files can be accessed.

The deal comes as RIM works to launch the next generation of its BlackBerry smartphones, with the BlackBerry 10 operating system and new phones expected early next year. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sales. Blackberry playing catchup to Apple, Android

Smartphone sales numbers from research firm IDC show BlackBerry lagging far behind Android and Apple devices in global second-quarter sales.

Android and Apple dominate in smartphones, with 85 per cent of the worldwide market combined. Blackberry devices, meanwhile, came a distant third with 4.8 per cent of the market, compared to 11.5 per cent a year earlier.

Research In Motion, once Canada's high-tech heavyweight, has been working to turn around its operations as consumers switch to iPhones and Android smartphones.

The company's success rides on its new BlackBerry 10 operating system and phone. But BB10 has suffered two major delays that have pushed its debut into early 2013, while Apple's new iPhone hits stores Friday. LG Electronics says its Optimus G Android smartphone will launch next week in South Korea. Other Android companies include Samsung Electronics Co., HTC Corp. and Google-owned Motorola Mobility. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Charity. Bronfman pledges half his wealth

Eleven more wealthy U.S. families, including Montreal-born Charles Bronfman, have pledged the majority of their wealth to philanthropy.

A total of 92 American families have now committed to give half of their wealth to philanthropy by taking the Giving Pledge, initiated by billionaires Warren Buffett and Bill and Melinda Gates in 2010.

The goal of the "Giving Pledge" is to increase charitable giving in the United States.

Bronfman now lives in New York. He was ranked by Forbes magazine in 2012 as the 13th wealthiest Canadian with a net worth of $2 billion.

His family made its fortune from the Seagram spirits company.

The most recent group of pledge signatories comes from diverse business backgrounds including technology, real estate, and finance. THE CANADIAN PRESS

The Giving Pledge was initiated by billionaires Warren Buffett, pictured, and Bill and Melinda Gates in 2010. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

A Starbucks payment app is shown on a smartphone in Toronto in this May file photo. Ottawa says it is reviewing its code of conduct for credit cards in order to adapt it for smartphone payments. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Feds to adapt credit-card code for mobile payments

Public consultation.
New rules would help small business owners

Ottawa is preparing to amend its code of conduct for credit and debit cards to prepare for the widespread use of mobile payments through such devices as smartphones.

The code of conduct is only two years old, but did not make allowances for the fact that technology would soon allow Canadians to make credit and debit payments not with cards but on mobile devices.

Ted Menzies, the minister of state for finance, said Tuesday the government would conduct a public consultation process in the next 60 days to consider how the code can be amended to reflect the new reality.

"Once we have reviewed and evaluated all submissions, we will set about revising the code so that Canadians and small businesses can use mobile payment offerings," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Retailing giant: Big Beckham statues come to H&M stores

English soccer player David Beckham is heading to a trio of Canadian cities in statue form. The larger-than-life versions of the star — shown here in Hollywood on Friday — will appear as part of a "statue stunt" with H&M at the Eaton Centre in Toronto, the Pacific Centre in Vancouver and inside the Montreal H&M at Peel and Sainte-Catherine streets from Tuesday until Sunday.

DAMIAN DOVARGANES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Trading up. Apple stock hits $700 US milestone

Apple's stock reached $700 US for the first time on Tuesday, setting a record for the company the day after it announced that orders for its iPhone 5 topped two million in the first 24 hours.

The stock traded as high as $701.44 in the morning, up a quarter of a per cent from Monday's close. It later fell slightly. It had come within 20 cents of $700 on Monday.

The rally in Apple's stock price puts the company's market value at $656 billion.

The $700 mark is somewhat of an arbitrary milestone for Apple's stock, representing little more than a nice round number and a record high trading level.

The company, after all, already enjoys the distinction as the world's most valuable public company ever. Google Inc., its Silicon Valley neighbour, saw its stock price surpass $700 in 2007.

On Tuesday, Google's stock was trading at $715.24. But the online search leader's market capitalization is well below Apple's at $234.1 billion.

Apple started taking orders for the iPhone 5 at 3 a.m. eastern time Friday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

By the numbers

$656B

Tuesday's rally put Apple's market value at $656 billion US.

Market Minute

DOLLAR 102.61¢ (+0.08¢)

TSX 12,422.71 (-24.15)

OIL $95.29 US (-$1.33)

GOLD $1,771.20 US (+$0.60)

Natural gas: $2.879 US (+ 1.4¢)
Dow Jones: 13,564.64 (+11.54)

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Sluggish outlook. Canada's economy has entered 'soft patch': TD Bank forecast

Canada's economy has entered a "soft patch" characterized by a housing correction, below trend growth and weak job creation, TD Bank says in its latest forecast.

The chartered bank said Tuesday the economy will barely eke out one per cent growth during the current third quarter that ends Sept. 30, and end the year with a 1.8 per cent overall advance.

That's three-tenths of a point below the bank's previous projection in June, and also shy of the Bank of Canada's 2.1 per cent target.

TD chief economist Craig Alexander said the revision was necessary because global conditions have deteriorated and the domestic economy is also faring worse than expected, in part because of Ottawa's decision to tighten mortgage rules.

Alexander said Vancouver's housing market was actually cooling before the stricter mortgage rules went into effect July 9, but since then the real impact of the changes has been evident. On Monday, the Canadian Real Estate Association reported August sales of existing homes slipped 5.8 per cent from July and were down 8.9 per cent from a year ago.

"That's what we were anticipating. We were saying that we would probably lose about five percentage points in sales and three percentage points in prices nationally," he said.

Aside from housing, most engines of growth have slowed or retreated in the past few months, led by exports but also including Canada's government sector, which has gone into deficit-reduction mode.

In July, Canada posted a record high trade deficit, with exports plunging 3.4 per cent in the face of soft demand in the U.S. and the strong dollar which makes Canadian shipments less competitive.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"With no engine firing on all cylinders, economic growth is being held to a meek sub-two per cent rate and the jobless rate is stuck above seven per cent." TD Bank forecast

Pizza parlour's ploy: Just add museum

Brian Dwyer displays his tattoo at Pizza Brain in Philadelphia on Sept. 12. Hundreds of people turned out for the grand opening of Pizza Brain, a restaurant where visitors can eat a slice or two of artisan pie while gawking at items from Dwyer's massive collection of pizza-related photos, records, knickknacks and videos.

MATT ROURKE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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COMMON DECENCY PREFERRED TO EXPLOITATION

JUST SAYIN'
Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

No doubt you've been breathlessly following the Case of the Duchess's Nipples, in which the Duchess of Cambridge is photographed without her top on, and when the photos are published, the top of her husband's head blows off.

The heir to the heir to the throne of England must be royally PO'd at the exposure of the crown jewels, especially so soon after the exploits of his brother, Prince Harry the Indiscreet, refused to stay in Vegas.

Now again the headlines are dominated by the exposure of royal private bits, although in this case, the bits have been elevated from common to royal status, which doesn't seem to make them any less valuable to the paparazzi and their customers.

The people are divided: Some believe the duchess should keep her shirt on at all times, as befits her stuck-up station. Others think she should be able to let it all hang out while on vacation, at a private villa, hundreds of metres from a public road, without professional Toms peeping at her through powerful telescopic lenses.

Others are amazed that the royals, naked or otherwise, seem to spend an awful lot of time on vacation, underwritten by the long-suffering British taxpayers.

Missing so far is a discussion of William's feelings. We're all about feelings at Just Sayin', so here goes:

Let us remember that William and Harry's mom, Princess Diana, died while being pursued at high speeds by the paparazzi in a Paris traffic tunnel. No wonder he's furious about the invasion of his wife's privacy. It's happening again, and you and I can only imagine the grief and rage he must be feeling right now.

Like his mother, his wife is being turned into a target, a victim, fresh meat for the tabloids. Kate has done nothing to deserve such vulgar treatment — her behaviour as Junior Royal Superstar has been unassailable, and this is what she gets for playing the game.

If you were William, you'd want to make it stop. So it's not surprising he has filed for — and received — an injunction against the publication of the photos, or that he has sued the photographer.

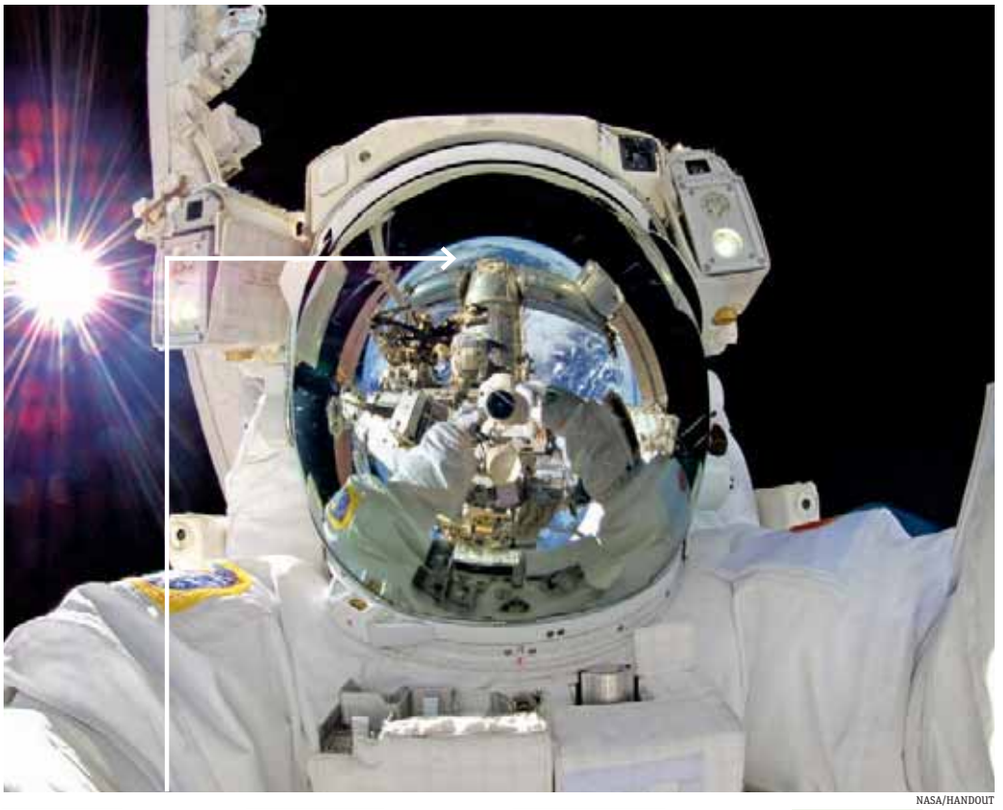
Not that it will do him any good. The best he can hope for is a continuation of the uneasy truce he and his family enjoy with the British media, chastened and weakened as they are by the phone-hacking scandal. But like the shrunken empire, the truce does not extend beyond the English Channel.

As anyone who reads this column (my family and copy editor?) knows, I'm not a big fan of the Royal Family. Talk about a feudal hangover. But I am a big fan of that endangered species, common decency.

Leave the poor woman and her family alone. Let her adjust her tan lines in peace.

The Duchess of Cambridge is seen visiting Assyakirin Mosque during a Diamond Jubilee tour of the Far East last week. The royals have sued the French magazine that published topless photos of Kate. TIM ROOKE/GETTY IMAGES

Good enough for Facebook?



NASA/HANDOUT

'Astro'-gram

Spaceman reflects with self-portrait

Everyone loves to take a self-portrait photograph of themselves, astronauts included. International Space Station astronaut Akihiko Hoshide, from Japan, took this stunning snapshot of himself earlier this month during a six-and-a-half-hour spacewalk outside the ISS. The photo was taken using a Nikon DSLR camera. **METRO**

ISS in numbers

370

kilometres was the approximate distance from Earth at which Hoshide took his snapshot on top of the International Space Station. He was travelling at roughly 28,000 kilometres per hour, the orbital speed of the ISS.

ISS maintenance

Toothbrush cleans more than just teeth

For Hoshide and colleague, NASA astronaut Sunita Williams, the spacewalk wasn't just a photography expedition.

The pair had to properly install some bolts and fix an essential solar power system, and resorted to some makeshift tools — including an improvised wire cleaner and an ordinary toothbrush — to help get the job done. **METRO**

Expedition 32

- Three astronauts arrived safely in remote Kazakhstan after 125 days in space.
- Sunita Williams, who holds the record for the longest spaceflight by a woman (195 days), now in charge at ISS, is the second female commander in ISS history. She will return to Earth in November.

Metropolitan Panel

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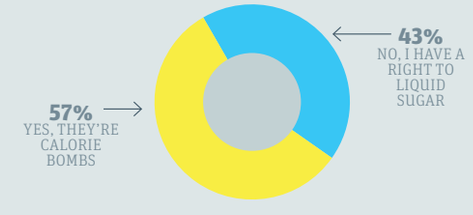
Should all cities follow New York City and ban supersized drinks?



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@Naina107: Love the weather at the moment. Cloudy, no rain, chilly breeze and setting sun.You cannot miss the beauty even in a concrete jungle #Toronto

@Jiggles1979: Sup #fall? Temp is seriously dropping in #toronto.

@Swagg_Abbie: 3rd day of the NHL Lockout...

@urbanelevations: #bluejays #rogers Count me out as a ticket buying supporter. Your mismanagement of #escobar's obv homophobia is unfathomable #beyondepicfail

@danieltkelley: Yunel Escobar, three-game suspension. Joel Peralta, eight-game suspension. Baseball certainly has its priorities...somewhere.

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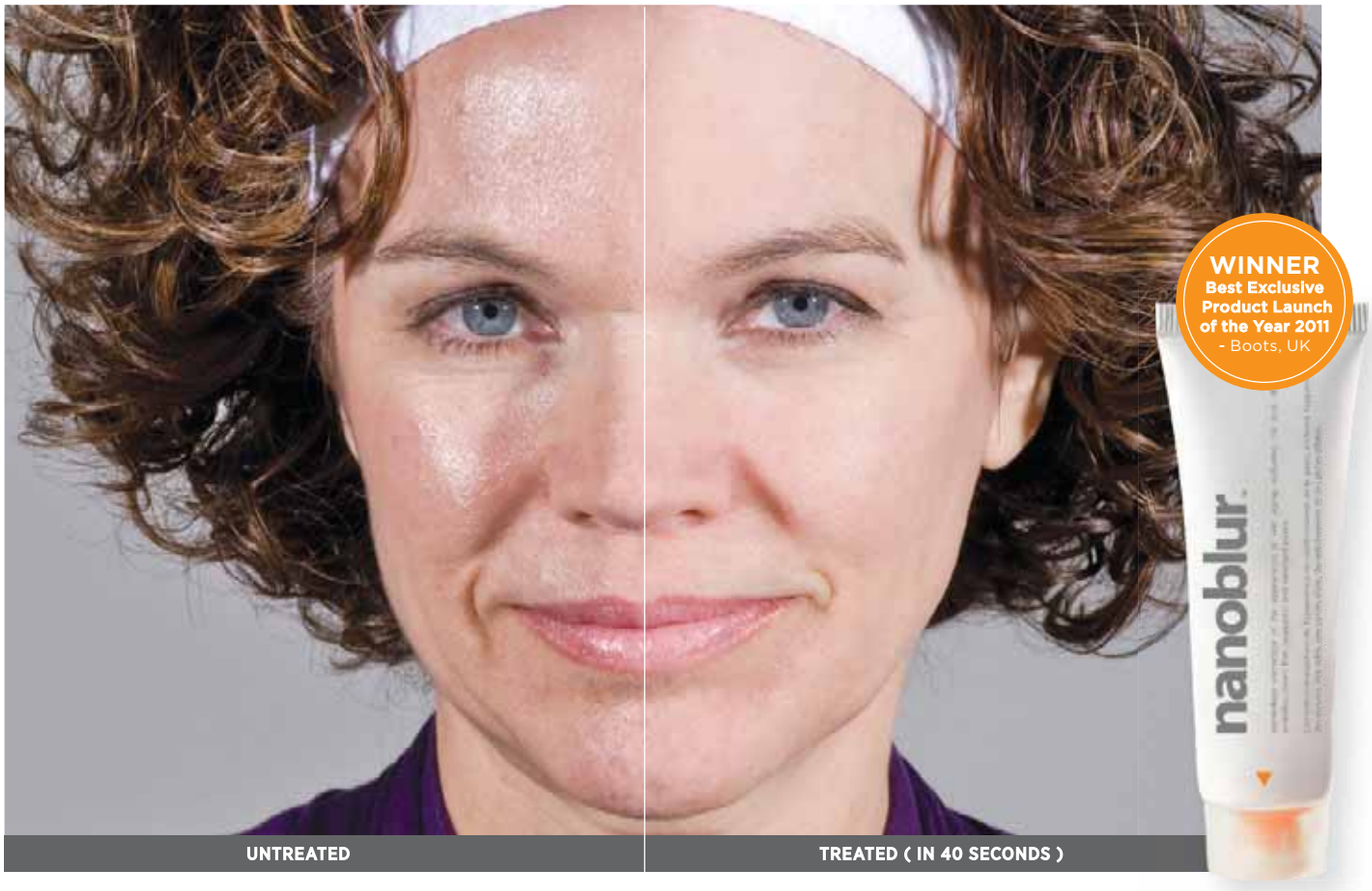

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Karl Urban stars as the dystopian supercop Judge Dredd in Dredd 3D. HANDOUT

Dredd 3D might make you a Belieber

Bloodbath. Gory movie's score stems from Justin Bieber song played 800 times slower

CHRIS ALEXANDER
scene@metronews.ca

Based on the cult British comic books, director Pete Travis's go-for-broke big screen bloodbath Dredd 3D is set to level theatres this Friday.

Starring Karl Urban (Doom, Lord of the Rings) as the titular dystopian supercop, Judge Dredd, shielded by a mask and with full authority to execute evildoers, the film sets up its story like a classic western.

Once Dredd and his rookie sidekick Anderson (Olivia Thirlby) are trapped inside the Peachtree slum by the psychotic drug lord Ma Ma (Lena Headey in a ferocious performance) Dredd must fight for his life by mowing down hundreds of baddies out for his blood.

And though the film is jet black and brutally gory, it is not without its humor says writer Alex Garland (28 Days Later, Never Let Me Go).

"There is humor in Dredd," Garland told Metro immediately preceding its Toronto premiere at TIFF.

"He never smiles. But he does crack jokes. How Karl pitches and delivers that joke is the secret of the performance. He takes the piss. He has an ultra bone dry sense of humour."

Bloodshed, black humour and a bigger body count than Saving Private Ryan aside, there is a beauty and majesty to the film, a bleak poetry — especially evident in its balletic 3D design — that is accentuated by a remarkable meditative electronic score by composer Paul Leonard-Morgan.

Surprisingly, that score stems from an unlikely source: Justin Bieber!

"Geoff Barrow from Portishead is a Dredd fan and he and over the years he'd been putting together music he wrote and put it together as an album called Drokk. Drokk is a swear word in the Dredd books. Anyway, when we were done shooting I showed Geoff an early cut of the film, and he pointed me towards this software he found that makes music run 800 times slower, just like the "slo-mo" drug does to its victims in the movie. He sent me a link to a Justin Bieber song slowed down 800 times and it became this stunning trippy choral music. The whole movie was temped to Justin Bieber, in fact. Paul recreated that Bieber music on his own and slowed it down 800 times and we use that in the movie."

To hear that original Bieber temp music, go to YouTube and search "Justin Bieber 800%". And then get out to a theatre to have your mind further blown by Dredd 3D this Friday.

On the web

Qriket

Captain America gets new job title in Marvel's Ultimate Comics universe: Mr. President

‘One last job’ for Clint Eastwood

Trouble with the Curve. Veteran actor plays common movie character — one who takes one last gig before retirement

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Over the course of dozens of movies, Clint Eastwood has played everything from cops and criminals to journalists and radio announcers to cowboys and even an astronaut.

This weekend in Trouble with the Curve he’s playing a character he’s never tried before — sort of.

He’s a baseball scout who brings his daughter (Amy Adams) along as he recruits new players. It’s his first baseball movie, but it isn’t the first time he’s played this kind of role — a man on the proverbial one last job.

The person who comes out of retirement, or takes on one last gig before hanging up his or her spurs, is a common movie character.

Blade Runner, Gone in Sixty Seconds, The Usual Suspects and The Wild Bunch all feature people going in for one last kick at the can.

In Eastwood’s case it’s a case of real life paralleling art to an extent. After Gran Torino, Eastwood announced his retirement from acting, but was coaxed back for one last acting job by his long time collaborator Robert Lorenz, who makes his directing debut with this movie.

Eastwood’s most famous “one last job” film is Unforgiven. He plays William Munny, an aging gunman who tried unsuccessfully to go straight and lead a normal life. “I’m just a fella now,” he says. “I ain’t no different than anyone else no more.”

But when he finds himself broke he saddles up one more time, reluctantly bringing along his old partner Ned (Morgan Freeman) to gun down some bad guys for money. “Just ‘cause we’re goin’ on this killing, that don’t mean I’m gonna go back to bein’ the way I was. I just need the money, to get a new start for them youngsters.”

In Trouble with the Curve, Clint Eastwood plays a baseball scout who brings his daughter, Amy Adams, along as he recruits new players. HANDOUT

At the time Eastwood said this would be the last movie that he would both perform in and direct, but has gone on to act in and direct many more, including the “one last time” movie Space Cowboys.

In front of the camera Clint is Frank Corvin, a retired rocket pilot called back into service when NASA finds they have a problem that only he can solve.

He recruits his old compatriots — Tommy Lee Jones, Donald Sutherland and James Garner — for one last journey into space.

NASA offered use of their “vomit comet” plane for the weightless scenes, but Eastwood said no, thinking the older actors couldn’t handle the physical stress of zero gravity.

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Head Games: New doc explores concussion crisis in sports

'Silent epidemic.' Raising the question: 'How much of you are you willing to lose for a game?'

STEVE GOW
scene@metronews.ca

Former hockey star Keith Primeau lets his kids play hockey.

That may not sound entirely shocking until you consider the 15-year NHL veteran not only had his career cut short from head trauma, but admits his teenage sons have already experienced concussions themselves.

"Sports and athletics are an important part of social upbringing and they're cultural experiences that (my kids) enjoy and I don't think they should change that," admits one of the subjects in the stirring new documentary Head Games, an exploration into the long-term effects of head injuries. "We don't want to create this heightened sense of fear about sport and athletics so it's a very fine line to walk, to get people to understand it's a real problem."

Directed by Steve James (Hoop Dreams), the film (in theatres Friday) is an eye-opening look at this "silent epidemic" spearheaded by former pro-wrestler Chris Nowinski. As the driving force behind the research that links chronic traumatic encephalopathy to the deaths of such athletes as hockey enforcer Derek Boogaard, he and advocates like Primeau battle a wave of denial.

"We're dealing with a tremendous amount of ignorance," said Primeau, who recently released Concussed — his own book on the subject. "Until you live a day in the shoes of a post-concussion sufferer, you shouldn't speak on the subject ... I didn't understand how severe it was. Now being on this side, it's not a fun place to be."

Primeau knows it's not an easy argument to make.

Even after the concussion that ended his career in 2006, he wouldn't admit head trauma was as dangerous as it is.

"That's become part of my mission, to try and change that cultural mindset," said Primeau. "Winning or losing, at the end of the day, isn't the most important thing — it's about enjoying the ride."

Quoted

"It took the courage of head trainer Jim McCrossin of the Flyers to sit me down one day and say, 'I can never give you clearance to play again.' And it was a sense of relief."

Keith Primeau, thankful his career ended

Quoted

"When they proposed it to me, I was like, 'I don't know how you're going to turn that into a movie and one that people are going to watch'. I'll tell you what, I was moved."

Keith Primeau on turning injury into cinema

Former hockey star Keith Primeau recently released Concussed — a book on his own experience with head injuries. He also shares his story in a new doc, Head Games, about the same issue. HANDOUT

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Flashpoint looking to go out with a bang

Cop drama. Hit Canadian show, which has seen international success, is entering its final season of production

It's the beginning of the end for CTV's cross-border hit Flashpoint.

The celebrated cop show launches its fifth season Thursday with sharpshooter Ed Lane forced to take a heart-wrenching shot that reverberates through the team.

It's a fitting farewell that will bring the homegrown series full circle to its very first, similarly Ed-focused episode, promises writer and co-creator Stephanie Morgenstern.

"There are some things that we set up in the pilot episode that are paying off now, 75 stories later," says Morgenstern, who launched the series with co-creator Mark Ellis on July 11, 2008.

"That's a really satisfying thing. I think it's actually a great gift to be able to know when you're going to end the series — to be able to think of the last season ... as a whole is extraordinary."

The pressure to get this right is big, she admits, if only because the cast and crew have bonded so tightly each feels an obligation to each other, as well as the fans, to salute the series they love.

Co-star Enrico Colantoni, who plays team Sgt. Gregory Parker, chokes back tears when he discusses his final days on set and saying goodbye.

"Parker is the greatest character I've ever gotten to play," says Colantoni, whose co-stars include Amy Jo Johnson as negotiator Jules Callaghan, David Paetkau as sniper Sam Braddock and Sergio Di Zio as explosives expert Spike Scarlatti.

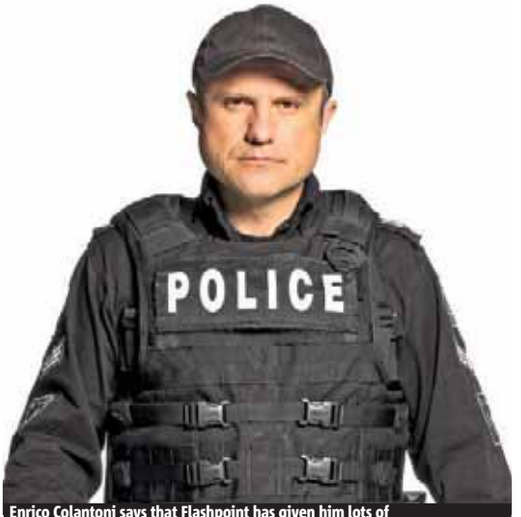
"There's a lot I love and I'm going to miss about this world — as an actor, as a human being."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

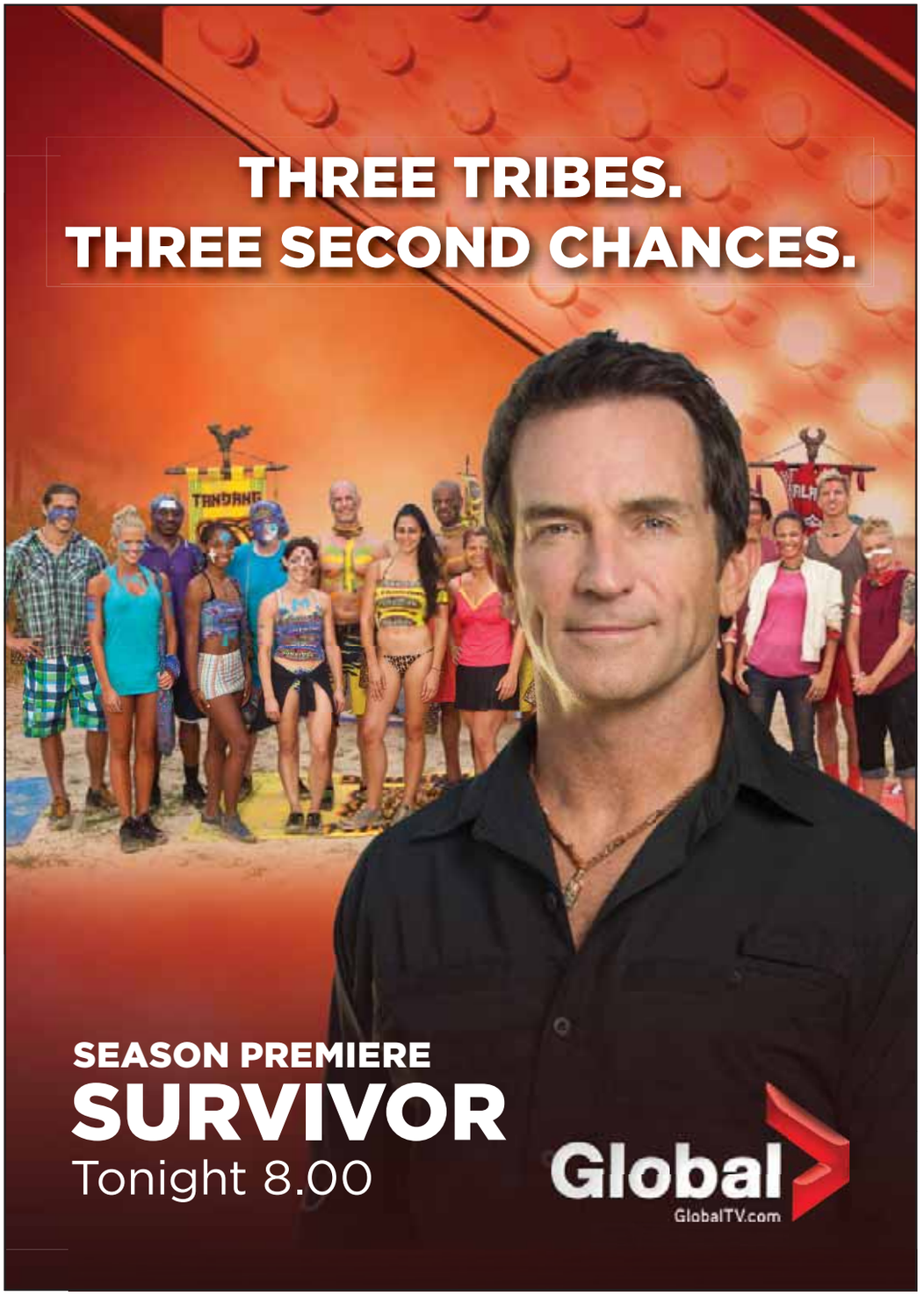
Big hit

Few Canadian series have managed to deliver the impact of Flashpoint — a bona fide hit that proved homegrown fare could be populist, acclaimed and internationally successful all at the same time.

- **Viewers.** When the slick procedural debuted four years ago on CTV and CBS, it drew 1.13 million viewers in Canada and 8.72 million viewers in the United States. It was the first Canadian series since Due South to air in network prime time on both sides of the border, paving the way for a wave of other Canadian series to also strike U.S. deals. Although CBS eventually dropped Flashpoint from its lineup, the show found a home in more than 100 territories worldwide, including Germany, France and the Netherlands.



Enrico Colantoni says that Flashpoint has given him lots of opportunity. HANDOUT



Say Whoopi to Sister Act, the musical

Stage hit. Popular '90s movie-turned-musical opens Oct. 3 at Ed Mirvish Theatre

Released almost 20 years ago (how time flies) the movie Sister Act, starring Whoopi Goldberg, was an unlikely early 1990s hit.

But with its mix of music, camp and comedy it is hardly surprising that the joyful movie was turned into a successful stage musical, which premiered on Broadway in 2011, garnering five Tony nominations.

Like the movie Sister Act, the Musical follows the story of two-bit lounge singer Delores Van Cartier who is sent into the witness protection program after witnessing a mob-related murder. The catch, Delores is sent to live in an inner-city covenant in order to protect her identity. As a fake nun on the lamb Delores transforms the downtrodden covenant's traditional choir into a modern gospel one, turning the singers into minor celebrities and raising badly needed funds for the covenant. With its mixture of Dangerous Minds meets School of Rock plot line, Sister Act, the Musical is a fun tale about how friendships can blossom in the most unlikely of places.

Sister Act, the musical opens on Oct. 2 and runs until Nov. 4 at the Ed Mirvish Theatre on Yonge Street.

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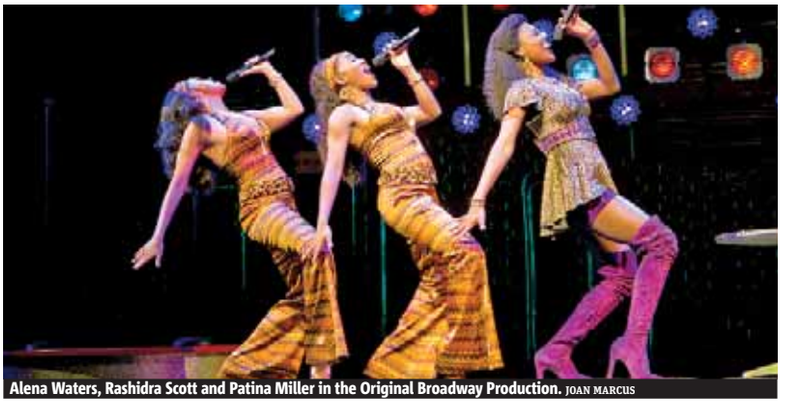

Alena Waters, Rashidra Scott and Patina Miller in the Original Broadway Production. JOAN MARCUS

On NBC. Usher, Shakira to join The Voice, giving Aguilera, Green a break

Usher and Shakira are joining The Voice as new coaches next spring, when Christina Aguilera and CeeLo Green take a break from the show, NBC said Monday.

Original coaches Adam Levine and Blake Shelton will remain on board in season four, the network said. The singing contest began airing its third season last week. Aguilera is going on the road to support her new album, while Green is developing new music and a sitcom based on his life for NBC.

"As I have expressed since Day One of the show ... I am a singer and performer first and I am so excited to get back to that love," Aguilera said in a statement. But she expressed eagerness about returning to The Voice in the future.

So did Green, who said he'll be back for season five. In the meantime, he invited Usher and Shakira to make themselves at home.

The Voice started as a midseason show and then added a fall cycle after posting solid ratings for NBC. The network's entertainment chief, Bob Greenblatt, said that created a time crunch for the coaches, and that NBC was glad to help Aguilera and Green take time from the program.

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Shaun White

White face plants after rough night out

Snowboarder and Olympic gold medalist Shaun White was reportedly arrested for public intoxication in a hotel in Nashville, according to TMZ, though he was briefly hospitalized before heading to jail.

White reportedly trashed his hotel room, and when hotel staff confronted him, he set off several fire alarms and attempted to flee on foot, eventually falling and sustaining a head injury.

After receiving medical treatment, he was booked on counts of public intoxication and vandalism.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Six shades of possible stars

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Author E L James knows who she wants in the film adaptation of her bonkers-popular 50 Shades trilogy, but she's still not telling.

We have a few suggestions:

CHRISTIAN GREY

1. Alexander Skarsgård
Eric the vampire gets my vote to play the billionaire playboy but will he accept the nomination? The role would make Skarsgård a household name, but might be too low-brow for the actor trying to establish a serious film career.

2. Ian Somerhalder
Yes, another vampire, the one from Vampire Diaries. Somerhalder's name has been thrown around more than most others.

3. Philip Seymour Hoffman
Wildcard!

ANASTASIA STEELE

1. Emma Watson
She can already carry a huge franchise and she's chomping at the bit for more "adult" roles.

2. Anna Kendrick
As witnessed in Up in the Air, Kendrick plays young and vulnerable extremely well. you are the state lottery,

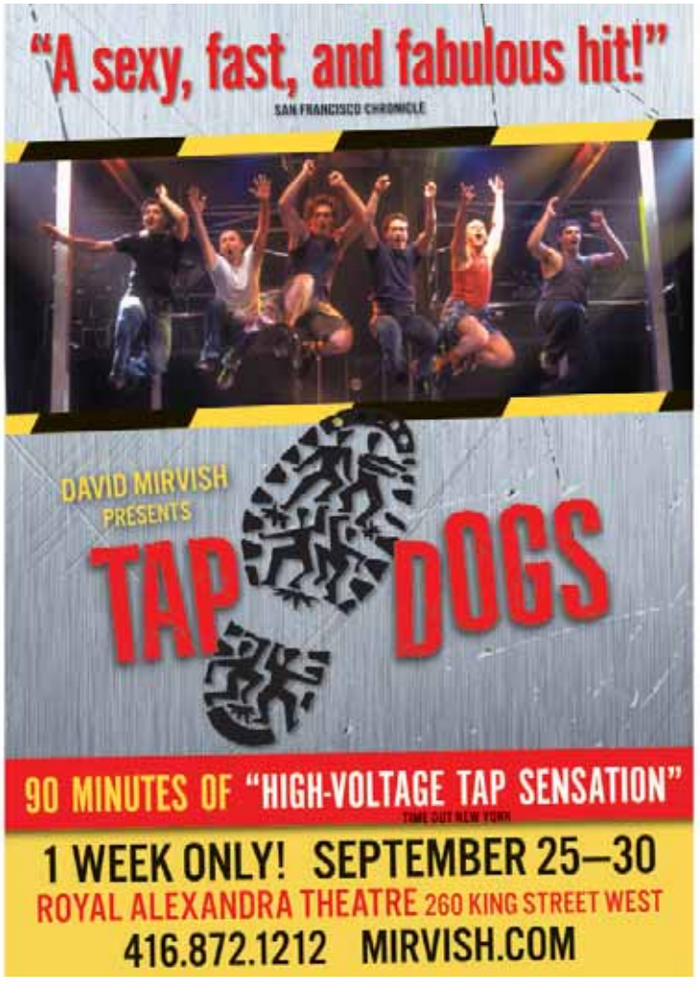
3. Betty White
Just another peg in Betty White's eternal global domination.

Kate Middleton

Royals awarded injunction for topless pics

Kate Middleton and her husband, Prince William, have won their first court victory in the wake of Closer magazine publishing topless photos of Middleton, according to the Guardian.

A French court has ordered an injunction preventing any further use of the images by the publication. The photos must be handed over within 24 hours, and the magazine's publishing company will be fined $13,000 a day if it publishes more of them or sends them to a third party. A criminal investigation has been launched to see if the magazine violated William and Kate's privacy by publishing the photos. A guilty verdict could lead to jail time for Closer's editor.



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World of wonder

Considering a cruise but not sure which one is right for you? Worried about getting on a ship that caters too much to adults, or too kids? Six days spent aboard the Disney Wonder from Vancouver to San Francisco and Los Angeles proved to be the perfect choice for all age groups, from young families with toddlers to retirees who left their grandchildren at home — on purpose. Here are the best activities families, kids and adults can do on a Disney Cruise Line ship from morning until night.

MAE GIFFORD
life@metronews.ca

Disney characters keep the kids entertained. PHOTOS: HANDOUT

Get some quiet time at the adult pool.

Nightly entertainment gets the family involved.

	Children	Adults	The whole family
Morning	Infants and toddlers are welcome at Flounder's Reef Nursery and children between ages three and 10 are treated to crafts, games, dancing, science experiments and face painting in the Oceaneer club or lab.	Start the day with a relaxing hot stone massage, soothing facial or therapeutic seaweed wrap at the ship's Vista Spa. Discounts on various treatments are offered daily. If watching your waistline is important, the ship's gym features the latest equipment, exercise classes and personal trainers. Prefer the outdoors? There's a track and three laps around the ship equals one mile.	It's difficult to focus on pancakes when Mickey, Minnie, Pluto and friends are posing for photos with each guest at their table during the character breakfast. Often the first time children get to meet their favourite Disney character in the flesh, it's a special moment that will create a lasting memory, so don't miss out.
Afternoon	Tweens between the ages of 11 and 14 have their very own hangout called Edge, where they can play video games and learn about animation or how to cook their favourite meals.	Grab a beach towel and settle in on a deck chair at the Quiet Cove Pool, which is for passengers over 18. A private bar for adults is poolside and servers are only too happy to whip up your favourite cocktail. Another popular spot is the Cove Cafe, where you can sip a gourmet coffee while reading a magazine or simply enjoy the ocean view.	Hit the pool deck for a chance to swim while watching a classic Disney movie on a gigantic outdoor television screen. With the kids entertained, parents can relax on a nearby lounge chair or tuck into a good book.
Evening	Night owls between 14 and 17 years old can hang out at Vibe until the wee hours with tons of activities to keep them entertained including Guitar Hero, singing karaoke and trivia games. Movie buffs can head down to the theatre to see films in 3D.	Dining at Palo is worth the splurge. This adults-only restaurant is on the ship's top deck and the menu features scrumptious northern Italian cuisine. Be sure to make a reservation and pack a formal outfit as this meal will be your dining — and perhaps even your cruise — highlight.	From pirate-themed dance parties on deck to award-winning productions in the ship's theatre, the nightly entertainment on board a Disney Cruise Line is a must-do for families. The shows feature popular characters including Peter Pan and Ariel and depict the classic themes that made Disney a household name.

On the web

Beer and wine will be on the menu when the Magic Kingdom's new restaurant opens later this year in Disney's Magic Kingdom

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Bring on Bangkok!

Thailand's capital is back in business as the city returns to normal after 2011's massive floods While you're there, spend a weekend in Hua Hin, or just pig out on pad Thai—our idea of the perfect vacation.

GINA ANGELOTTI
life@metronews.ca

Do

Hail a tuk-tuk — a motorized rickshaw that audaciously weaves through traffic — to the Grand Palace complex where inside pristine white walls are gold-leafed architectural marvels. Get lost trailing 800 metres of murals depicting the Hindu epic Ramayana. At the Temple of the Emerald Buddha, cover shoulders and knees, respectfully bow your head and take a mental picture of its wealth of beauty. In walking distance, Wat Pho's red ceramic rooftops house more than 1,000 Buddha statues as well as a Thai massage school for an affordable indulgence.

Stay

Thailand's notoriously humid climate justifies bathing at least twice daily, but so do the Metropolitan Hotel's limestone showers and COMO Shambala eucalyptus, mint and lavender spa products. In suites overlooking Bangkok's upscale Sathorn district, Eastern teak Ming-style chairs compliment modern European platform beds and streamlined decor. In addition to its staff's unmatched hospitality, the boutique hotel boasts a wellness center, two restaurants, an exclusive bar-cum-nightclub and an outdoor lap pool. metropolitan.bangkok.como.bz

Dine

While 7-11 is Bangkok's most omnipresent pit stop to get your Thai iced-coffee fix, for quality bites discover The Deck on Chinatown's waterfront. Sure, pad Thai is a safe lunchtime bet, but don't skip their deep-fried garlic and cilantro soft-shell crab and save room for sweet black sticky rice with sliced mango. For dinner, nahm offers a feast for all senses. Chef David Thompson's classic Thai canapés served on traditional pottery match the atmosphere's authenticity. A dining tip: contrary to popular belief in North America, Thais primarily eat with a fork and spoon, not chopsticks.

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Orlando Family Special
Air + 6 Nights + Car $422◊
Orlando Continental Plaza — incl $114 base + $308 taxes & fees
INCLUDES accom near theme parks with 7-day car rental. Price per person based on family of 4. Departs Oct 28/vth/c6.

New England
Fall Colours, Air + 5-Day Car $448
incl $324 base + $124 taxes & fees
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INCLUDES accom in the heart of Miami Beach. Departs Nov 4, 12/ggv/ua.

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Niagara Falls 3 Nights $98◊
Ramada Niagara Falls — taxes & fees included
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Vancouver Air + 3 Nights $519
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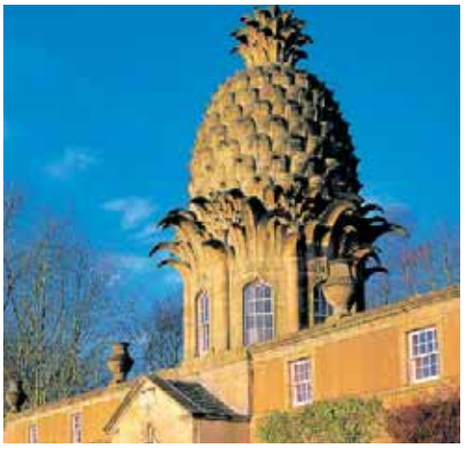
5 historic holidays

Who? The National Trust Cottages, United Kingdom, Wales and Northern Ireland.
How does it work? This is the accommodation arm of The National Trust, the 100-year-old charity dedicated to protecting and running historic properties, gardens, coastline, forests and beaches and opening them to the public. The Trust restores and rents out more than 400 self-catering properties, ranging from back-to-basics cottages to Grade One-listed mansions.
Top properties: Some of the more exotic places to stay on their books include the cottage beside the Souter lighthouse in Northumberland; Doyden Castle, a crenelated folly built as a party house on a Cornish clifftop in 1830 by a wealthy gentleman or live like a lord at Lytes Cary in Somerset, a manor house in the Arts and Crafts style with a magical garden. nationaltrustcottages.co.uk



Who? The Landmark Trust, United Kingdom, Italy, France
How does it work? This charity was set up in 1965 with a mission to rescue historic buildings at risk of neglect and let them out in order to secure their future. Their 195 fabulously eccentric properties dating from 1250 to 1970 include converted pigsties and fisherman's cottages to Victorian follies and medieval castles.
Top properties: Some of the most unusual homes include the Gothic Temple with circular rooms in Stowe, The Pineapple, a curious summerhouse with a pineapple-shaped roof in Scotland and the Martello Tower, a solid battlement originally built to defend Britain's Norfolk coast from Napoleon. landmarktrust.org.uk

Who? Pousadas de Portugal, Portugal, Azores, Brazil
How does it work? This state-owned organization, which is now run for the government by the Pestana Hotel group has been restoring culturally-significant castles, convents and palaces into comfortable, stylish hotels since the 1950s. The hotels all have excellent restaurants where you can sample the best of traditional, regional and seasonal gastronomy – and great wines. Despite its top-quality accommodation, room rates are remarkably reasonable, from $108.
Top properties: Cool off in the pool at Palacio de Estoi in the Algarve, where a slick new wing lives harmoniously alongside the original, ornate rose-pink palace or go minimalist at Pousada de Arraílolos, a 16th century convent turned contemporary hotel. The wind whistles through the stone corridors at Palmela, a 17th century fortress on a hill near Lisbon with dramatic views over the Arrábida Natural Park. pousadas.pt

Who? The National Trust of Scotland
How does it work? The National Trust of Scotland is the country's top conservation charity, and protects the country's man-made and natural cultural heritage, from battlefields and castles to remote islands and the wildlife that live there. They also offer a range of quirky holiday accommodation.
Top properties: Make like royalty and stay at Brodie Castle, built by Alexander Brodie the 12th in 1567. It's packed with colourful interiors, a superb collection of Dutch and Flemish art and has a famous collection of daffodils in the garden. Meanwhile, you'll enjoy dramatic views from the clifftop if you stay in the old circular brewery added in the 18th century to the 16th century Culzean Castle in Ayrshire. nts.org.uk/Holidays

Who? Paradores, Spain and Canary Islands
How does it work? Paradores is a state-owned company that has been preserving some of Spain's most significant cultural and architectural landmarks and turning them into welcoming and affordable accommodation for the last 80 years. Each Parador has a great restaurant where you can try out local cuisine.
Top properties: Set on a dramatic headland, the Parador de Cardona houses an 11th century Minvona tower and an 11th century church within its ninth century fortified walls. You can make like a 15th century pilgrim and stop by overnight at the Parador in Santiago de Compostella, which is viewed as one of the oldest hostelries in the world and now a luxurious hotel. parador.es

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If you would rather tour the country on land, you will find that easy to do. Bermuda's public transportation system is well-maintained and inexpensive. Scooter rentals are popular with tourists, too — they give you the freedom to go where you want, when you want, for a reasonable price.

Bermuda's beaches are lovely and secluded — perfect getaway spots for couples. Spend the day sunning on the soft sand, then visit one of the islands' many spas and wellness facilities to soak up even more of the positive vibes. Whether you want an active vacation, or pure relaxation, Bermuda is the place for you.

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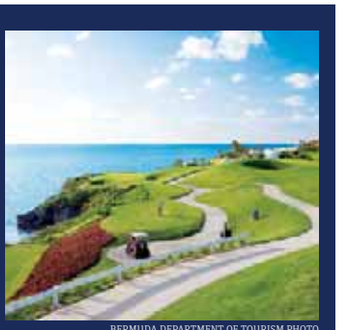

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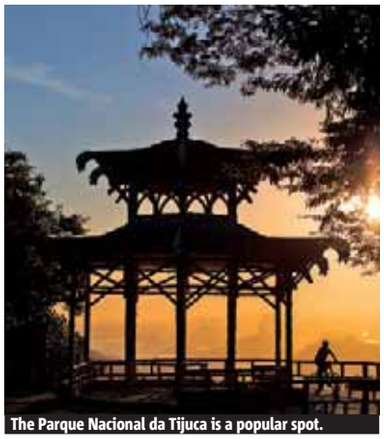
Parque Lage has lots of charm. PHOTOS: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The streets are alive with the sound of Samba.


The Parque Nacional da Tijuca is a popular spot.

The cobblestone streets of old Rio.

Five things to do in Rio de Janeiro that will cost you nada

Travel on the cheap. After years of economic growth in Brazil, Rio de Janeiro has gotten a bit pricey, but some of the best things are still free

Hit the beach
Rio boasts some of the world's most stunning urban beaches. Locals spend much of their free time sunning themselves on these long stretches of white sand, so beach-going makes for great people-watching. Go to Copacabana, Ipanema, Leblon or Praia Vermelha, at the foot of the Sugarloaf Mountain.

Parque Lage and the Famous Statue
About a half-mile away from the also-gorgeous but not free Jardim Botanico, or Botanical Gardens, Parque Lage has as much charm as its better-known neighbour. Like the Botanical Gardens, this park is a vast green space unfolding from the skirts of the Corcovado mountain, on which Rio's famous Christ the Redeemer statue is perched.

Historic Rio
Rio was once the seat of an empire. Aspects of this history can be seen in a winding walk through the cobblestoned streets that remain downtown. Within a few blocks, you can see the Paco Imperial, or Royal Palace, the home where the Portuguese royal family settled when they fled Europe just ahead of Napoleon's advancing troops, and the Biblioteca Nacional, with a collection that has been growing since 1810.

Samba
Rio's signature percussion-driven rhythm can be heard in classy indoor music venues, sure, but old-school samba circles can pop up without notice. There are parts of town where musicians traditionally gather, where you can find great samba played the way it was in its origins: outdoors, and free for all. Rua do Ouvidor, or Ouvidor Street in downtown, generally has music on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Pedra do Sal, in the downtown neighbourhood of Saude, has samba circles on Mondays and Fridays.

Parque Nacional Da Tijuca
The most-visited national park in Brazil, this nearly 10,000-square-acre expanse of forest embedded in Rio de Janeiro is what allows this densely populated city to breathe. There are trails of various lengths and levels of difficulty carved through the forest.

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Peter Hamill, author of Tabloid City, is a Brooklyn native. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brooklyn festival a literary draw for book lovers of every kind

Writing hotbed. Authors and bookworms converge on New York borough to celebrate words

The Brooklyn Book Festival, scheduled for Sept. 23 and now in its seventh year, has rapidly become one of the top events of its kind in the United States, with 280 writers taking part, including A-listers like Mary Higgins Clark, and crowds expected to approach 40,000.

The festival's success has earned it comparisons with more established book fairs in places like Los Angeles, Miami, Washington and Austin, Texas, but its buzz is partly due to Brooklyn's latest incarnation as a trendy hotbed of hipsters and artists. The borough is home to many well-known contemporary writers like Martin Amis, Jhumpa Lahiri and Jonathan Safran Foer.

As it does every year, this year's schedule includes some writers with Brooklyn connections, like Colson Whitehead and Paul Auster, who live here; Pete Hamill, who was born in Brooklyn and is receiving an award at the event called Best of Brooklyn, Inc.; and Edwidge Danticat, whose fiction about the Caribbean often portrays the immigrant community in Brooklyn.

But while organizers are proud of the borough's literary prowess, they also stress that "the Brooklyn Book Festival is in no way, shape or form just about Brooklyn," said Johnny Temple, chairman of the Brooklyn Literary Council and head of a Brooklyn publishing house called Akashic Books.

"We go out of our way to ensure the authors we invite appeal to everyone," said Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz, one of the festival's founders. "They include intellectuals as well as authors that have greater mass market appeal and celebrities."

In addition to Higgins Clark and her daughter Carol, who is also a bestselling mystery writer, other authors on the roster range from Terry McMillan and Joyce Carol Oates to Judith Viorst and Sapphire. Celebrities taking part include actor Tony Danza, whose new book, I'd Like to Apologize to Every Teacher I Ever Had, recalls his year teaching at Philadelphia's largest high school, and Jimmie Walker, who starred in the TV sitcom Good Times and wrote a memoir called Dyn-O-Mite. In a phone interview about his upcoming appearance, Walker said fans who come to his book events love to "talk about the show — they grew up with it."

The festival is also committed to programming that reflects Brooklyn's diversity. Many events have an international flavour or explore serious themes. This year, one session focuses on African novels with child narrators and another features leading Indian writers. Two events honour the 50th anniversary of independence in Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago, with one curated by Jamaica's legendary Calabash literary festival, and the other presented by Trinidad's groundbreaking Bocas literary festival. Another seminar looks at poetry and narratives in light of the Arab Spring, while Isabel Wilkerson will talk about her book, The Warmth of Other Suns, about the 20th century migration of African-Americans from the American South to the North. There's also an extensive schedule of children's writers as well as writing workshops.

The festival takes place Sept. 23, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., in and around Brooklyn Borough Hall in downtown Brooklyn, but related events will be held beginning Sept. 17 in other venues around the borough.

The festival started in 2006 and quickly grew to fill a void left by the demise of an annual Manhattan book festival called New York is Book Country. When that event ended, Markowitz recalled, "I said to myself, 'You know what, we're going to pick it up and make it bigger and better than it ever was in Manhattan.' We're already home to so many writers, it was a natural place to launch a book festival."

Evan Hughes, author of the book Literary Brooklyn: The Writers of Brooklyn and the Story of American City Life, says Brooklyn is experiencing a "golden age" of a literary community, comparable to postwar Greenwich Village or Paris in the 1920s.

"Greenwich Village was the beating heart of literary New York at one time and in a way Greenwich Village moved to Brooklyn," Hughes said. "I know a lot of people hear that and say, 'Oh boy, that sounds like a lot of hype.' But I do think those comparisons are fair. It's sometimes hard to see the big sweep of history when you're in it. And it's fashionable to roll your eyes at it. But I think it was fashionable in Paris in the '20s to roll your eyes at it, too."

Why do writers move to Brooklyn? Yes, real estate is cheaper than in Manhattan, though the borough has plenty of million-dollar homes and apartments. But it's not just about paying the rent. "It's got the brownstones and the well-preserved streetscapes, many of them from the 19th century that have a real appeal, a sense of small town within the city," said Hughes. "The neighbourhoods are very distinct from one another. The buildings don't crowd out the sky. There's less clamour. I think those things prove very attractive."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Literary legacy

For book lovers who can't make the festival, the borough is a good destination for a literary pilgrimage any time, with a long history of local writers going back to poet Walt Whitman. Whitman worked at a Brooklyn newspaper in the 19th century and his poem Crossing Brooklyn Ferry is engraved in a waterfront railing at the foot of Old Fulton Street in Brooklyn's DUMBO section. Brooklyn has a lot of interesting literary spots: W.H. Auden and Carson McCullers lived in a commune at 7 Middagh St., Truman Capote lived at 70 Willow St., and Norman Mailer lived at 142 Columbia Heights. Other residents of Brooklyn at various points included Richard Wright, Marianne Moore, Thomas Wolfe, William Styron, and Arthur Miller.

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Darren Parkman
travel@metronews.ca

Having witnessed orangutans in the wilds of Borneo, and Koalas lounging in the trees in Melbourne, Australia, the wildlife in Canada almost seemed a bit tame to me, if you'll pardon the pun. That is, until I embarked on a nondescript little boat tour in a northern B.C. coastal town recently.

As we started out, the guides at Prince Rupert Adventure Tours informed us we may actually see a grizzly bear or two as we departed from quiet Cow Bay. The scene that actually unfolded could not have been more spectacular.

Not long into the tour through the beautiful inside passage, we quickly spotted countless bald eagles and seals frolicking in the surf.

Then, as we edged up to the shoreline in a remote area, things quickly started to resemble a National Geographic TV special.

There, just a few feet away on the sandy beach front was a giant mother grizzly bear calmly crushing clamshells with her powerful jaw, and then happily spitting the shell's contents to her two adorable and playful cubs.

And then, as if on cue, we all noticed a lone wolf slowly creeping up on the oblivious feeding bears. This brazen wolf slowly crossed a river, and edged closer and closer to the mother bear and her cubs as we all watched from our boat in stunned silence.

Then all in one motion, the lone wolf charges the mother grizzly and her cubs, chases them away, and proceeds to steal the newly shelled clam meat left behind.

Our boat guide later told us in 20 years on the tour, he'd never seen a wolf confront a grizzly bear, and he wasn't surprised the grizzly ran, to protect her cubs.

All of us on this tour felt lucky to have seen something so amazing as we snapped away as many pictures as we could. A few eagles and seals would have been worth the price of admission, but a wolf chasing grizzly bears?

Other cool things to do in Prince Rupert...

Hike Butze Rapids Trail: A five-kilometre hike leading to a beautiful reversing tidal rapids. Along the way experience old growth forests and wetlands carpeted with moss

Visit the North Pacific Cannery Museum: One of the few surviving Salmon Canneries dating back to 1889. A fascinating look at life in a bygone era.

A brave lone wolf was able to chase a bear family away from a feast of clams. DARREN PARKMAN

A mother grizzly and her two cubs were busy crushing clamshells in full view of tourists. DARREN PARKMAN

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Fall for these drinks

JOE HOWELL OF THE SPOKE CLUB

September: Blue Crush

You aren't supposed to wear white after Labour Day, but that doesn't mean you have to retire summer cocktails. It's going to be a long winter, so keep the patio vibe alive with this cousin to the ever-popular mojito.

In Collins glass, muddle small handful of blueberries with a few mint leaves and lime wedges. Fill with ice, and add:

- 1.25 oz Skyy Vodka
- 0.5 oz Xaica Hibiscus Liqueur
- 2 oz fresh, tart lemonade

Stir drink, and top with splash of dry sparkling wine (about 1.5 oz); garnish with sprig of mint. **ALL DRINKS BY JOE HOWELL, HEAD BARTENDER AT TORONTO'S THE SPOKE CLUB (THESPOKECLUB.COM)**

October: The Maple Heist

A sip of this simple drink, and you might understand why thieves stole $30 million worth of syrup in August. There's still plenty in stores, though, which is something to be thankful for. And don't let the eggs and syrup combo fool you — we don't encourage drinking this at breakfast.

- 1.5 oz Gibson's Finest 100th Grey Cup Edition (maple rye whisky)
- 1 oz pure lemon juice
- 0.5 oz maple syrup
- 0.25 oz egg whites

Combine all ingredients in shaker, shake without ice. Add scoop of ice and shake again; strain into rocks glass. Garnish with cranberries macerated in simple or maple syrup.

November: Ginger-Pear Snap

People tend to be a little down about November. But look on the bright side: It's whisky weather! It should also be a good time for locally-grown pears. The Wiser's Spiced has a vanilla flavour that goes well with the other flavours here, and makes for a cocktail that will appeal even to those who shy away from dark liquors.

In shaker, muddle lemon zest with a small pieces of peeled ginger. Fill with ice, add:

- 1 oz Wiser's Spiced Whisky
- 2 oz pure pear juice
- dash of simple syrup

Shake and strain into a Collins glass, and garnish with a slice of ripe pear.

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KICK-START YOUR CAREER

AN MBA CAN HELP YOU RE-ENTER THE WORKFORCE AT A HIGHER LEVEL

Studying for an MBA is a big financial risk that could consume two years of your life, but it could also transform your career and provide a solid return on investment.

MBA programs are offered coast-to-coast in Canada at 39 universities. Statistics Canada says it's among the most expensive graduate programs, with an average MBA costing $21,528 and an executive MBA averaging $37,501. Tuition varies greatly, from less than $5,000 (Memorial University) to more than $84,000 (Rotman School of Management). Executive MBAs can cost more than $100,000. That's just tuition — textbooks and cost-of-living will add substantially to that cost.

But it can pay off, says Charmaine Courtis, executive director of student services at York University's Schulich School of Business.

"It helps you re-enter the workplace at a higher level and accelerates you in your career," she says. "The return on investment is quite high."

She says some of their students are there to become more skilled in their current career. "They may have started as an accountant and want to move into a more strategic managerial level in an organization, so they take courses that will give them that skill set," Courtis says.

Others want to enter a specific industry.

"For example, we recently launched a new focus in global mining management," Courtis explains.

A full-time program lasts one or two years, and part-time studies can stretch it to three or four years.

Scott Comber, an assistant professor and director of Dalhousie University's corporate residency MBA program, says it can kick-start your career. Many of his students come straight out of their undergraduate degrees. The course teaches business practices, but it also prepares students with leadership skills in "human capital."

"Some of them have truly launched amazing careers as a result of it," he says.

Dalhousie's MBA program offers "pretty unbelievable" paid corporate residencies within the industry at real, entry-level MBA positions, Comber says. "Within six months, they're actually working in industry."

That can often translate into a post-MBA job. The average starting salary for Dalhousie MBA grads is $67,000 and an MBA equals about 10 years of on-the-job experience. Other MBA programs make similar claims.

To get in you generally need a four-year undergraduate degree (it doesn't have to be in business), score well on the GMAT, and provide references as part of an academic portfolio. The university is not just looking at grades — Comber says Dalhousie also wants to see employability and coachability.

– Jon Tattrie

CLASSROOMS GOING GLOBAL

WILFRID LAURIER UNIVERSITY PHOTO

LAURIER TO LAUNCH INTERNATIONAL MBA PROGRAM

The changing face of MBAs across the continent means more specialization and more globalization, which are both underpinned by the evolving role online content plays in the delivery of higher education.

At Wilfrid Laurier University, the trend toward globalization is apparent as the MBA program will soon see students travelling the world in a one-year program designed to merge lessons of mature economies with emerging ones.

Next spring, Laurier is planning to launch its international MBA program, which will see students divide their time among classes and projects in Canada, Dubai and India.

"The content of what we do in each of the terms and venues is tailored to reflect what it's like to do business there," says Hugh Munro, director of Laurier's MBA program. "The subjects we've chosen and the projects we've designed would be immersive. We want you working on projects that have real business issues with companies facing those issues."

Developing economies such as India, China and Brazil are growing rapidly and demand for MBA programs in those countries is especially strong, he says.

Another common thread in post-graduate business studies is the need to specialize or align with certain sectors, be it health care, transportation or real estate. Laurier is working on forging professional alignments with the Society of Management Accounts (CMAs) and Chartered Financial Analysts (CFAs). The international resort and golf industry is a sector the university is also considering.

As MBA programs grow their niches, technology will be there to help with the transition. But many schools still grapple with how to deliver the proper blend of online content with classroom education. While online learning offers universities and students a much broader geographic scope, technology presents something of a challenge in its apparent expediency. Will it ever replace the classroom?

"Everyone is still evolving and figuring out the right mix," says Munro.

"I don't believe in a design where we do everything online. Let's use the classroom to apply our learning to business issues that show the relevance of a concept."

In addition to the international MBA, Laurier offers a part-time MBA that takes three years to complete, a full-time, 12-month program and a 20-month, co-op program.

TAILORED FOR WORKING MOMS

Since many working mothers find higher education an overwhelming prospect,Wilfrid Laurier University is heeding the call with a part-time MBA program, which takes three years to complete. Classes are never held on Sundays or throughout July and August to allow for family time. The next MBA info session for women will be held Jan. 24 at the Verity in Toronto.

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INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVES

ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

Finding women's footwear when you are a size three-and-a-half can be a huge drag on your sense of style and self-esteem.

Just ask Anne Murray. The 32-year-old's girl-sized feet mean she is often looking for shoes in the children's section.

But thanks to her ingenuity and to the MBA program at Ryerson University those days may soon be over. Murray is hoping to launch her own online shoe shop to make custom-made footwear more comfortable, attractive and affordable for hard-to-fit feet.

"The MBA gave me the tools to move forward from having an idea in my head to getting it down on paper and seeing it develop," Murray says. "It's given me more confidence and skills and I feel excited about going forward with my business."

In its eighth year, the Ryerson MBA program is housed in the heart of downtown Toronto in the Ted Rogers School of Management building. It offers a full-time and part-time program in which classes aren't held on weekends, but weekday evenings.

"One of the things our program does is foster individual initiatives," says Kim Bates, MBA program director. "We strive to help students become entrepreneurs and that focus is different than other MBA programs. We enjoy assisting those who want to chart their own path."

Ryerson maintains a low enrolment rate so it can provide a more personalized educational experience. Courses can be customized to suit students' needs or, if unavailable, taken at other business schools at no extra cost.

"We're very highly customizable," says Brynn Winegard, director of student recruitment. "A group of students wanted to take a brand management course and we didn't offer one so we put it together for them."

Ryerson prides itself in its high visibility and accessibility, which bodes well for the school's recruitment and placement initiatives. It's also a calling card for many of the program's mature students who work downtown and want easier access to obtaining their MBAs.

Winegard says that most MBA grads are placed within three months of graduating and 100 per cent have found work within six months.

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Schulich School of Business, 4700 Keele Street

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October 2, 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
Miles S. Nadal Management Centre, 222 Bay Street, Suite 500

To register, visit:
www.schulich.yorku.ca/infosessions

Schulich Leads in Rankings Schulich is ranked in the world's top tier of business schools by *The Economist* (#9 in the world); *Forbes* (10th best non-US school); *Bloomberg Businessweek* (9th best non-US school); The Aspen Institute, a US think tank (#2 in the world in Social and Environmental Leadership); and *Expansión* (#20 in the world) in their most recent global MBA surveys. The Schulich MBA is also ranked #1 in Canada by *The Economist*, *Forbes*, The Aspen Institute and *Expansión*.

HIT THE GROUND RUNNING

WITH THE DEGROOTE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

The DeGroote School of Business prides itself in the practical, hands-on education it has earned a reputation for teaching.

To further enhance its experiential learning, the business school at McMaster University is offering MBA students two new courses that replicate the real world of commerce by integrating all aspects of business — marketing, accounting, communications — into each student's workload.

Its new case analysis and presentations course lets students play decision maker as they tackle real-life predicaments and dilemmas encountered in the corporate world. Should Porsche market its cars to a winter audience? How does Domino's Pizza restore its reputation after a video of employees tampering with food goes viral?

Students are taught the tools with which to analyze, gather data and organize a plan of action to manage and overcome these challenges. The second part of the course sees students compete in national and international case competitions in which they have three hours to analyze, find solutions and prepare a PowerPoint presentation before appearing before a firing squad of professors and business pros.

DEGROOTE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS PHOTO

When the course was first offered last year, students were videotaped on their first presentation and then on their last and asked to analyze the results.

"The difference brought tears to my eyes," says MBA program director Dr. Melina Head, who teaches the new courses. "How their critical thinking skills and confidence had developed was truly incredible. It was really nice to see."

For business students interested in consulting there is the brand new A.T. Kearney Student Lab course, which puts students in a real-world consulting environment.

The global management consulting firm offers similar student labs at U.S. schools such as MIT and the University of Chicago, so this course is unique as the only one of its kind in Canada, says Head.

Companies such as McCain Foods, Canadian Tire and Telus participate in the course by presenting bona fide issues and problems that these companies would typically hire consultants to help with. The student's job is to provide solutions with faculty mentors and Kearney consultants acting as guides.

"What distinguishes our school is what we hear from employers who come to us time and again because our students are ready to hit the ground running," says Head. "It's not just all theory."

MBA GAMES

As winners of the 2012 MBA Games, DeGroote is now preparing to host the 2013 Games this January. More than 800 MBA students from across Canada will travel to Hamilton for the competition. DeGroote has also expanded the competition to the U.S., inviting several American schools.

ENRICHING EXPERIENCE

SCHULICH SCHOOL OF BUSINESS PHOTO

WITH SCHULICH'S NEW GLOBAL MINING MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

When we think of Toronto's financial district, what comes to mind often are banks, technology and perhaps the oil and gas sectors.

But did you know that Toronto lays claim to the most mining companies on the Toronto Stock Exchange — nearly 1,700 — making it the financial capital of the mining world?

Given that backdrop, it's fitting that 45 MBA students are hitting the books this fall in the inaugural global mining management specialization offered at York University's Schulich School of Business. The only mining MBA in Canada and one of just a few in the world, this program is well positioned for future leaders in the mining industry.

It's wrong to think that mining companies hire just engineers and geologists since they seek people from all disciplines, says Richard Ross, the head of Schulich's new program and a former mining industry executive. Jobs might include accounting, HR managers, careers that focus on sustainability, mining law, community outreach, information technology — the list goes on and on.

A former chairman and CEO of Inmet Mining Corporation, Ross's lengthy association with the mining industry means he is primed to pass on his know-how.

"It's exciting because we get to create something out of nothing," he says of the new program. "There was no formula or template. I've been given licence to take my experience and create this rich curriculum that no one else has done. There's nothing more I enjoy doing than creating a wonderful enriching experience. It's fun and mentally rewarding to see students get the benefit of that."

A practical, hands-on program that is grounded in rich theory, the mining specialization offers students a wide range of learning opportunities from industry guest speakers to on-site mine visits to attendance at industry events and internships.

MBA students specializing in global mining management select from mining industry-related course options during their second year. MBA students at Schulich generally study an overview of business courses in the first year and then choose from one of 19 specializations such as mining, real estate, or health care in Year 2.

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You may know how to work with numbers, but do you know how to work with people? ISTOCK

An effective resumé can make all the difference between landing an interview and getting tossed into the 'no' pile. However, knowing how to write one can be challenging, especially since each industry has different expectations.

If you're an engineering student ready to break into the workforce, check out these tips and tricks from a career advisor and an engineering student.

Show who you are and what you are passionate about

Tanya Gillert, a career advisor at the University of Waterloo, recommends including a brief overview about yourself using bullet points at the top of your resumé.

"Focus on what type of engineering you're apt in," she says, "and highlight not only years of experience and academics, but something unique. For example, achieving a bronze medal after four years on the swim team showcases dedication and commitment," two qualities that employers may be looking for in new engineers.

Emphasize extra-curricular activities

"A lot of engineering students forget that soft skills are actually important . . . they matter a lot to employers," says Yi-Wei Ang, president of the You're Next Career Network and an Industrial Engineering student at the University of Toronto who has worked at IBM and held leadership positions with a number of engineering-related student organizations.

"It's very common for engineering students to focus solely on their school work because their workload is generally heavier than in other fields," he says. "However, you can be working on your career-building skills from day one. Spend some time figuring out what field you want to be in, how you'll get there, and how you can create your personal brand."

One of the best ways to do that is by participating in student groups and other extra-curricular activities and then using that experience to showcase your leadership, teamwork and communication skills.

Top 4 quick tips

To summarize, Gillert offers the following quick tips:

- Display your personality and originality through your unique experiences and accomplishments
- Showcase specialities using specific examples
- Be relevant and action-oriented — don't just list tasks or responsibilities
- Change your summary section for every job you apply to

Demonstrate results

Including specific accomplishments with as much detail as possible is also key, Yi-Wei says. For example, "Created original application for (name of program) using (name of software/tool) for (this purpose)."

Gillert agrees that engineering employers are looking to see results, not simply that you have three years experience at various placements. "Use words like 'increased', 'enhanced' or 'maximized', which show the end result of certain places you worked or projects you were a part of," she says.

Use keywords to strengthen your resumé

Keep in mind that most students or recent grads who are applying for a job will have similar experience and skill sets as you. Instead of using the same words and phrases to apply for every job, use the keywords from each job listing to build a new resumé.

"The biggest tip I can offer is to make sure you look at the job posting closely," Yi-Wei says. "Use your keywords (from the job description) and then highlight specific examples regarding how you've utilized these skill sets."

Gillert also suggests using resources like Google AdWords and LinkedIn to find out what keywords are in high demand, and then match them to your own experience. "On LinkedIn you can type in your field and it'll bring up all the related skills, which gives you all the keywords you need."

To access this feature on LinkedIn, place your mouse over 'More' at the top right of the navigation and click 'Skills & Expertise'.

Show your personality, but don't overdo it

As a future engineer, your resumé doesn't have to be super flashy or visually creative, but there are a few ways to show employers your personality.

Gillert recommends "including examples that really mean something to you, so when you have interviews you can discuss these experiences that you're passionate about."

Yi-Wei echoes this idea: "Cookie cutter resumés will never help you stand out," he says. "You want to show an employer that you put in effort and tried to make yourself stand out without going too crazy on the layout." At most, use a different style of header at the top of the page.

LEAH RUEHLICKE IS A RECENT CULTURAL STUDIES AND ENGLISH GRADUATE FROM TRENT UNIVERSITY.

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Hands-on before year is up

Co-op your way to a career. How to build the foundation of your future in engineering

KATHERINE RAGETH
TalentEgg.ca

The figures are showing that engineering is no longer for boys only. ISTOCK

Working in a paid position to support the costs of university while gaining relevant work experience to add to your resumé makes co-op programs for engineering a win-win situation.

Alternating work terms with school terms, engineering co-op programs allow engineering students to get into the workplace and experience different roles while working toward earning their degree at the same time.

Why should engineering students do co-op?

Program coordinators and graduates alike are not short on praise for engineering co-op programs.

Sheenagh Brooks, co-op coordinator of civil engineering at the University of British Columbia strongly believes in the co-op program because it gives engineering students a chance to try out different fields before committing to one.

She says classroom education is only paper and theory, but co-op programs allow students to get out into the workplace where they can actually apply it.

"The main thing," Brooks says, "is they think they want to go on this route, but when they get out there and try it they realize (something else) is the type of work they really want to do. It makes them realize what they first wanted to do, they don't really want to do."

Co-op makes it possible to confirm these decisions in a very informed way. It also gives students an opportunity to network and improve upon their interview skills before graduating.

Denver Jermyn, a graduate from the biological engineering co-op program at the University of Guelph, says the greatest benefit of co-op is "gaining experience and networking contacts before graduating. Most people graduate without any experience in their field at all, whereas I already had 16 months of work experience."

Training

Training in engineering co-op is usually "learn as you go," according to Jermyn, who worked in co-op positions such as a brewing assistant, surveyor for an airport and a consultant for the Canadian Standards Association, providing technical support to carbon management companies in Europe.

"Usually I had a supervisor who would delegate tasks and review all of my work before approving it," he says. "Training was pretty informal most of the time."

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Push the boundaries and try these five mind-blowing activities. We call it pure sensory overload.

DISCOVERY: WHITE WATER RAFTING

There is nothing like the feeling of plunging into wild rapids on a raft, paddling as hard as you can while cold water sprays up around you.

"It's fun, fast and furious," is how one visitor described the Nahanni River in the Northwest Territories as it rushes 322 kilometres through a deep river canyon. The mountain peaks and landscapes along the way are spectacular and include caves, hot springs and mist zones. You may see moose, mountain goats, bald eagles and bears. And one breathtaking stop is Virginia Falls, where the river cascades down cliffs that are almost twice the height of Niagara Falls.

HEIGHTENED EXPERIENCE: RIDE THE BEST ROLLER-COASTER

The X2 wing-shaped roller-coaster at Six Flags Magic Mountain in California zooms around at more than 20 storeys high at speeds sometimes approaching 129 kilometres per hour. All the while the seats, which extend off the track, rotate riders head over heels, forward and backwards. The train climbs to an extreme height while riders face the wrong direction, then it falls in reverse — all to a blistering rock soundtrack and flame-throwers bursting overhead.

"Forget what you have ridden before. The X2 will have you grabbing the handlebar grips for dear life."

DRAMATIC: RACE AN INDY CAR

Sitting behind the wheel of a real life, open cockpit, 600-horsepower Indy Car is a guaranteed rush of a lifetime … the roar of the massive engine surrounds you, you feel the vibrations of the car at the slightest acceleration, and there's the smell of burned rubber as you follow the lead IZOD IndyCar Series car around the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Speeds can top out at well more than 280 km/h (180 mph) on the track. Want to be a race car driver? "The Indy Racing Experience is where you really experience the thrill of Indianapolis."

STIMULATE: JUMP OUT OF AN AIRPLANE

Sky diving is definitely not for sissies. You are up more than 10,000 feet, outfitted in all the special gear, and once the pilot reaches the "drop zone," you simply walk out of the door of the plane… and free fall for more than a minute. Then it's time to pull the cord and open the parachute … and float down to Earth.

"Free-falling is a combination of sheer excitement and crazed amazement at viewing the world from the sky."

PUSHING BOUNDARIES: DIVE INTO A BLOWHOLE

Blowhole diving is a rush — literally. You jump or dive into a naturally created hole or crevice in rock and then let your body get sucked by the current out into the ocean. The more advanced blowholes in Hawaii carry you through tunnels forged over thousands of years of erosion. First-timers, pack your bags for Laguna Beach.

"Sun, sand — and a blowhole. It doesn't get any better than that."

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Jays' Escobar gets 3-game ban for homophobic slur

MLB. 'It was just a joke,' says apologetic shortstop, of message written under eyes

Jays manager John Farrell, left, and coach Luis Rivera, centre, listen to Yunel Escobar at a news conference at Yankee Stadium in New York on Tuesday. KATHY WILLENS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blue Jays shortstop Yunel Escobar apologized Tuesday for playing a recent game with a homophobic slur written in Spanish under his eyes, an action that resulted in a three-game suspension.

Several pictures posted online showed Escobar with the message written on his eye-black stickers, which are often worn under the eyes to reduce the sun's glare.

The team announced the suspension after Escobar and team officials met with representatives from Major League Baseball and the Major League Players Association. Escobar, flanked by general manager Alex Anthopoulos and manager John Farrell at an afternoon news conference, apologized for his actions.

"Honestly it's been a terrible experience in my life and career," Escobar said through a translator. "It's something I'm sorry for and something I won't do again."

Escobar had written under his eyes "TU ERE MARICON," which can be translated as "You are a faggot."

The player said he was embarrassed by his actions.

"It was just a joke," Escobar said through the interpreter. "It was my idea but it wasn't directed at anyone in particular."

Escobar said he has friends who are gay and has nothing against homosexuals.

"What came out through all of this is the lack of education," said Anthopoulos. "It's not just an issue in sports it's an issue in life.... It's clear the problem isn't going away and this is just an example of it."

His forfeited salary will go to You Can Play and the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.

Escobar will also participate in a sensitivity training program in accordance with the team and MLB.

Farrell said Escobar often writes messages on his eye-black stickers, so others in the clubhouse didn't really notice it.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Baseball in Buffalo

Bridging the triple-A gap

The Blue Jays have moved their most important farm team a lot closer to home.

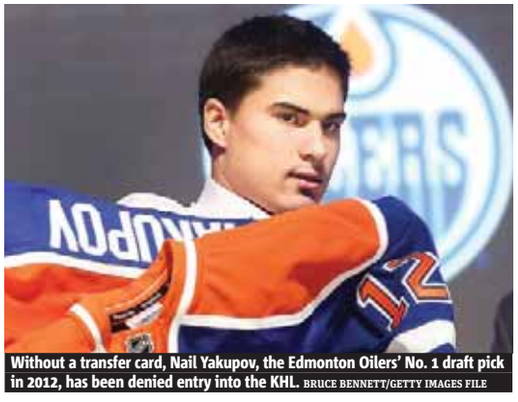
Confirming speculation that had been swirling for months, the Jays announced Tuesday they have moved their triple-A minor-league affiliate from Las Vegas to Buffalo.

The club signed a two-year deal with the Buffalo Bisons of the International League, ending their four-year pact with the Las Vegas 51s of the Pacific League.

"From a baseball point of view, this is a great fit for our organization. With only 160 kilometres separating the two fields, we will have greater flexibility to make roster decisions and an increased opportunity to watch our most developed prospects," GM Alex Anthopoulos said in a written release. "We look forward to providing the Bisons with an exciting and talented roster."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

KHL acceptance not a given for top talent


Without a transfer card, Nail Yakupov, the Edmonton Oilers' No. 1 draft pick in 2012, has been denied entry into the KHL. BRUCE BENNETT/GETTY IMAGES FILE

Locked-out NHLers making their exodus to Russia and its wads of easy money hit their first road block on Tuesday: Transfer cards.

The IIHF failed to issue a transfer card to Russian Nail Yakupov, the first overall pick in the 2012 draft and a member of the Sarnia Sting, so he could play with Neftekhimik of the KHL.

"The IIHF is not allowing Yakupov to play. The transfer card has not been sent from Switzerland (the IIHF headquarters)," Neftekhimik director Rafik Yakubov told Sovetsky Sport.

An IIHF transfer card is needed for any player participating in any tournament under the IIHF umbrella.

While Yakupov's debut in the KHL may only be delayed by what sounded like red tape, other NHLers may face the same problem now that they have begun their journey across the Atlantic.

There didn't seem to be any issues with Ilya Kovalchuk, who signed with SKA St. Petersburg. Kovalchuk, who inked a record 15-year $100 million contract with the New Jersey Devils in 2010, was expected to make close to $8 million in St. Petersburg if he plays the full season for SKA. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Returning home

Alex Ovechkin is expected to sign a lucrative deal with Moscow Dynamo, a coup for the ambitious Kontinental Hockey League.

- Formed three years ago with the help of Russian President Vladimir Putin, the league has jumped at the chance to recruit some of the world's best players, hoping it would help the fast-growing league emerge from the shadows of the NHL.

NBA

"I don't know if I'm the face of the franchise just yet.... I'm just trying to get to know the guys."

Rockets guard Jeremy Lin who drew a horde of media for his first workout in Houston on Tuesday, evidence that 'Linsanity' has plenty of life left in it.

NHL

Burke takes swipe at departed Allaire

And don't let the door hit you on the way out.

Maple Leafs GM Brian Burke didn't say that, but he might as well have in taking a swipe at goalie coach Francois Allaire on Tuesday. Allaire said he quit the team, due to interference from above in how he coached.

Burke took to the team's website to swipe back.

"I regret that I have to deal with this matter publicly but I feel the need to respond. Was there interference from the staff as he said there was? Yes. But it was done reluctantly and it was done to change elements of our goaltending that was subpar," Burke told the website.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Leafs general manager Brian Burke. GETTY IMAGES FILE

NBA

Magloire coming back to Raptors

The Raptors have re-signed Toronto's Jamaal Magloire, a veteran presence in the middle to compliment rookie centre Jonas Valanciunas. Magloire averaged 1.2 points, 3.3 rebounds and 11.0 minutes with Toronto last season. THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 SPORTS

Mobile sports

Cricket

After a remarkable year on the links, world No. 1 Rory McIlroy is now "a marked man." "He's right now the present day Tiger Woods," said tour veteran Jim Furyk ahead of this week's Tour Championship.

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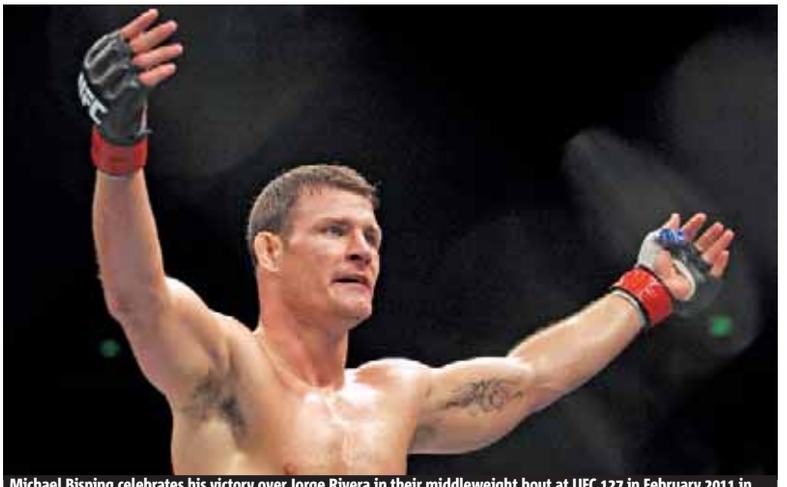
Michael Bisping celebrates his victory over Jorge Rivera in their middleweight bout at UFC 127 in February 2011 in Sydney. MARK KOLBE/GETTY IMAGES

UFC fighter enjoys image makeover

From cad to contender. Michael Bisping hopes win at UFC 152 in Toronto will earn him a shot at the title

Michael Bisping is used to being the villain. The English middleweight might as well have worn a black hat to the cage for his fights.

But now living in California, the 33-year-old Bisping seems to be enjoying an image makeover of sorts.

"I don't know what it is, but I'm certainly getting a lot more love on Twitter these days," Bisping told The Canadian Press.

Some of the Bisping-related tweets used to be R-rated, but times have changed.

"Now every day there's at least five, 10 tweets of people saying 'I used to absolutely hate you but now I'm actually a fan. Good luck in Canada etcetera etcetera.' I get a lot of that type of thing these days."

Odds are Bisping won't be the target of the boo-birds at UFC 152 in Toronto this weekend. That may be reserved for light-heavyweight champion Jon (Bones) Jones, who has been in the news for all the wrong reasons recently (DUI and dispute with UFC boss Dana White over his opponent).

Jones takes on Brazilian Vitor (The Phenom) Belfort on Saturday at the Air Canada Centre while Bisping (23-4) meets (All-American) Brian Stann (12-4) in a fight that has 185-pound title implications.

In the past, Bisping has fought best when he was angry with his opponent. That has made for plenty of trash-talk.

Bisping admits it's hard to work up a hate for a war hero like Stann, whose day job is finding jobs for wounded veterans.

"He seems like a pretty decent guy, unfortunately" said Bisping, who did the high-in-the-sky CN Tower walk with the decorated ex-marine as part of the pre-fight publicity.

"There's not much meat on the bone in terms of trash-talk," he added. "He's a nice guy."

Still, old habits die hard and Bisping couldn't resist a few shots at Stann in a recent blog for Yahoo! Sports.

"Stann has talked big about how he's going to put me to sleep," the Brit said. "Well, that's a fact. I can't avoid it. None of us can. Brian is going to tell some more deathly boring old war stories at the pre-fight press conference, and we are all going to be in for a snooze."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bisping vs. Stann

- Bisping has won four of his last five, dropping a decision to Chael Sonnen last time out on a televised card in January.
- Stann has won four of his last five, with the only loss coming at the hands of Sonnen two fights ago. Stann, 31, knocked out Alessio Sakara in April.

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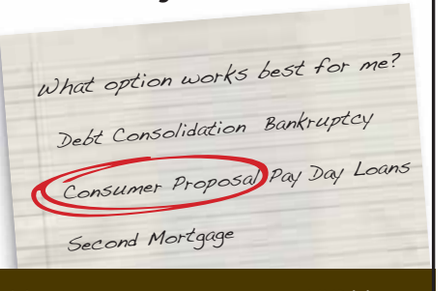

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MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	83	63	.568	—
Baltimore	83	64	.565	½
Tampa Bay	78	69	.531	5½
Toronto	66	79	.455	16½
Boston	67	81	.453	17

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	80	66	.548	—
Detroit	77	69	.527	3
Kansas City	66	80	.452	14
Cleveland	61	86	.415	19½
Minnesota	60	87	.408	20½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	87	59	.596	—
Oakland	84	62	.575	3
Los Angeles	80	67	.544	7½
Seattle	70	78	.473	18

Tuesday's results
Toronto at New York (ppd., rain)
Minnesota at Cleveland
Oakland at Detroit
Boston at Tampa Bay
Chicago White Sox at Kansas City
Texas at L.A. Angels
Baltimore at Seattle
Monday's results
Baltimore 10 Seattle 4
Boston 5 Tampa Bay 2
Chicago White Sox 5 Detroit 4
Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern
Toronto (H.Alvarez 9-12) at N.Y. Yankees (Pettitte 3-3), 1:05 p.m. (1st game)
Minnesota (Hendriks 0-7) at Cleveland (McAllister 5-7), 7:05 p.m.
Oakland (Bre.Anderson 4-1) at Detroit (Verlander 14-8), 7:05 p.m.
Toronto (R.Romero 8-14) at N.Y. Yankees (D.Phelps 4-4), 7:05 p.m. (2nd game)
Boston (Matsuzaka 1-5) at Tampa Bay (Archer 0-3), 7:10 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Sale 17-6) at Kansas City (Mendoza 7-9), 8:10 p.m.
Texas (D.Holland 10-6) at L.A. Angels (C.Wilson 12-9), 10:05 p.m.
Baltimore (J.Saunders 2-2) at Seattle (F.Hernandez 13-8), 10:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

EAST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	89	57	.610	—
Atlanta	85	63	.574	5
Philadelphia	74	74	.500	16
New York	66	81	.449	23½
Miami	65	83	.439	25

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cincinnati	88	59	.599	—
St. Louis	77	70	.524	11
Milwaukee	74	72	.507	13½
Pittsburgh	74	72	.507	13½
Chicago	58	89	.395	30
Houston	48	99	.327	40

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	84	63	.571	—
Los Angeles	76	71	.517	8
Arizona	72	74	.493	11½
San Diego	71	76	.483	13
Colorado	58	88	.397	25½

Tuesday's results
LA Dodgers at Washington (ppd., rain)
Philadelphia at New York (ppd., rain)
Milwaukee at Pittsburgh
Atlanta at Miami
Cincinnati at Chicago Cubs
Houston at St. Louis
San Diego at Arizona
Colorado at San Francisco
Monday's results
Atlanta 7 Miami 5
Philadelphia 3 N.Y. Mets 1
Pittsburgh 3 Chicago Cubs 0
San Francisco 2 Colorado 1
Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern
L.A. Dodgers (Harang 9-9) at Washington (Zimmermann 10-8), 4:05 p.m. (1st game)
Milwaukee (Estrada 3-6) at Pittsburgh (McPherson 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Medlen 8-1) at Miami (Jo.Johnson 8-12), 7:10 p.m.
Philadelphia (Hamels 15-6) at N.Y. Mets (Harvey 3-5), 7:10 p.m.
L.A. Dodgers (Beckett 1-2) at Washington (Lannan 3-0), 7:35 p.m. (2nd game)
Cincinnati (Leake 8-9) at Chicago Cubs (Rusin 1-2), 8:05 p.m.
Houston (Harrell 10-9) at St. Louis (Lynn 15-7), 8:15 p.m.
San Diego (Volquez 10-10) at Arizona (Cahill 11-11), 9:40 p.m.
Colorado (Chatwood 4-4) at San Francisco (M.Cain 14-5), 10:15 p.m.

AUTO RACING

NASCAR CANADIAN TIRE

CHAMPIONSHIP STANDINGS
(after 11th of 12 races)

1. D.J. Kennington, 470; 2. J.R. Fitzpatrick, 447; 3. Andrew Ranger, 440; 4. Scott Steckly, 433; 5. Ron Beauchamp, Jr., 389; 6. L.P. Dumoulin, 363; 7. Jason Hathaway, 357; 8. Jason White, 345; 9. Martin Roy, 344; 10. Neil Dowler, 335.

Final Race of Season: Saturday, Sept. 22

Pinty's 250, Kawartha Speedway (0.375 miles), Peterborough, Ont.

NASCAR SPRINT CUP

Through Sept, 16
POINTS

1, Brad Keselowski, 2,056. 2, Jimmie Johnson, 2,053. 3, Tony Stewart, 2,048. 4, Denny Hamlin, 2,041. 5, Kasey Kahne, 2,041. 6, Clint Bowyer, 2,041. 7, Dale Earnhardt Jr., 2,039. 8, Greg Biffle, 2,037. 9, Martin Truex Jr., 2,035. 10, Kevin Harvick, 2,032. 11, Matt Kenseth, 2,030. 12, Jeff Gordon, 2,009. 13, Kyle Busch, 814. 14, Ryan Newman, 773. 15, Carl Edwards, 772. 16, Paul Menard, 760. 17, Marcos Ambrose, 752. 18, Joey Logano, 715. 19, Jeff Burton, 667. 20, Jamie McMurray, 664.

INDYCAR

FINAL STANDINGS

1. Ryan Hunter-Reay, 468 points. 2. Will Power, 465. 3. Scott Dixon, 435. 4. Helio Castroneves, 431. 5. Simon Pagenaud, 387. 6. Ryan Briscoe, 370. 7. Dario Franchitti, 363. **8. James Hinchcliffe, Oakville, Ont., 358.** 9. Tony Kanaan, 351. 10. Graham Rahal, 333.

11. J.R. Hildebrand, 294. 12. Rubens Barrichello, 289. 13. Oriol Servia, 287. 14. Takuma Sato, 281. 15. Justin Wilson, 278. 16. Marco Andretti, 278. **17. Alex Tagliani, Lachenaie, Que., 272**. 18. Ed Carpenter, 261. 19. Charlie Kimball, 260. 20. E.J. Viso, 244.

NFL

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Jets	1	1	0	.500	58	55
New England	1	1	0	.500	52	33
Miami	1	1	0	.500	45	43
Buffalo	1	1	0	.500	63	65

SOUTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Houston	2	0	0	1.000	57	17
Indianapolis	1	1	0	.500	44	61
Tennessee	0	2	0	.000	23	72
Jacksonville	0	2	0	.000	30	53

NORTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Baltimore	1	1	0	.500	67	37
Cincinnati	1	1	0	.500	47	71
Pittsburgh	1	1	0	.500	46	41
Cleveland	0	2	0	.000	43	51

WEST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Diego	2	0	0	1.000	60	24
Denver	1	1	0	.500	52	46
Kansas City	0	2	0	.000	41	75
Oakland	0	2	0	.000	27	57

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EAST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Philadelphia	2	0	0	1.000	41	39
Dallas	1	1	0	.500	31	44
Washington	1	1	0	.500	68	63
N.Y. Giants	1	1	0	.500	58	58

SOUTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Atlanta	2	0	0	1.000	67	45
Tampa Bay	1	1	0	.500	50	51
Carolina	1	1	0	.500	45	43
New Orleans	0	2	0	.000	59	75

NORTH

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Green Bay	1	1	0	.500	45	40
Detroit	1	1	0	.500	46	50
Minnesota	1	1	0	.500	46	46
Chicago	1	1	0	.500	51	44

WEST

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Arizona	2	0	0	1.000	40	34
San Francisco	2	0	0	1.000	57	41
St. Louis	1	1	0	.500	54	55
Seattle	1	1	0	.500	43	27

WEEK TWO

Monday's result
Atlanta 27 Denver 21
Sunday's results
Arizona 20 New England 18
Buffalo 35 Kansas City 17
Carolina 35 New Orleans 27
Indianapolis 23 Minnesota 20
Cincinnati 34 Cleveland 27
Houston 27 Jacksonville 7
Miami 35 Oakland 13
N.Y. Giants 41 Tampa Bay 34
Philadelphia 24 Baltimore 23
Pittsburgh 27 N.Y. Jets 10
San Diego 38 Tennessee 10
San Francisco 27 Detroit 19
Seattle 27 Dallas 7
St. Louis 31 Washington 28
Thursday's result
Green Bay 23 Chicago 10

WEEK THREE

Thursday's game — All Times Eastern
N.Y. Giants at Carolina, 8:20 p.m.
Sunday's games
Tampa Bay at Dallas, 1 p.m.
St. Louis at Chicago, 1 p.m.
San Francisco at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
Kansas City at New Orleans, 1 p.m.
Cincinnati at Washington, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Miami, 1 p.m.
Buffalo at Cleveland, 1 p.m.
Jacksonville at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
Philadelphia at Arizona, 4:05 p.m.
Atlanta at San Diego, 4:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Oakland, 4:25 p.m.
Houston at Denver, 4:25 p.m.
New England at Baltimore, 8:20 p.m.
Monday, Sept. 24
Green Bay at Seattle, 8:30 p.m.

TENNIS

ATP MOSELLE OPEN

At Metz, France
Singles — First Round

Gael Monfils (7), France, def. Olivier Rochus, Belgium, 6-3, 6-2.

Nikolay Davydenko (8), Russia, def. Mischa Zverev, Germany, 2-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Clement Reix, France, def. Edouard Roger-Vasselin, France, 6-3, 3-6, 7-5.

Ivo Karlovic, Croatia, def. Kenny de Schepper, France, 7-6 (5), 7-6 (3).

Vincent Millot, France, def. Igor Sijsling, Netherlands, 6-4, 6-4.

Benoit Paire, France. def. Xavier Malisse, Belgium, 6-1, 6-4.

ATP ST. PETERSBURG OPEN

At St. Petersburg, Russia
Singles — First Round

Mikhail Youzhny (1), Russia, def. **Vasek Pospisil, Vernon, B.C.**, 7-6 (4), 6-1.

Grega Zemlja, Slovenia, def. Lukas Lacko (5), Slovakia, 6-3, 6-2.

Roberto Bautista-Agut, Spain, def. Yen-hsun Lu (6), Taiwan, 6-4, 6-2.

Daniel Gimeno-Traver, Spain, def. Florent Serra, France, 7-6 (5), 6-2.

WTA GUANGZHOU INTERNATIONAL OPEN

At Guangzhou, China
Singles — First Round

Chang Kai-chen, Taiwan, def. Marion Bartoli (1), France, 4-3 (retired).

Zheng Jie (2), China, def. Chan Yung-jan, Taiwan, 5-3 (retired).

Sorana Cirstea (3), Romania, def. Hu Yue-Yue, China, 6-2, 7-5.

Urszula Radwanska (4), Poland, def. Melinda Czink, Hungary, 7-6 (1), 6-2.

Mathilde Johansson, France, def. Monica Niculescu (6), Romania, 7-5, 6-2.

Peng Shuai (7), China, def. Ayumi Morita, Japan, 7-6 (3), 6-0.

Alize Cornet (8), France, def. Alexandra Panova, Russia, 6-3, 1-1 (retired).

Hsieh Su-wei, Taiwan, def. Nina Bratchikova, Russia, 7-5, 6-3.

Nudnida Luangnam, Thailand, def. Jarmila Gajdosova, Australia, 6-7 (5), 6-4, 6-2.

Zheng Saisai, China, def. Julia Cohen, U.S., 7-6 (1), 7-5.

WTA KDB KOREA OPEN

At Seoul, South Korea
Singles — First Round

Caroline Wozniacki (1), Denmark, def. Arantxa Rus, Netherlands, 6-1, 6-2.

Kaia Kanepi (3), Estonia, def. Han Sung-hee, South Korea, 6-1, 6-0.

Silvia Soler-Espinosa, Spain, def. Julia Goerges (5), Germany, 1-6, 7-6 (5), 6-2.

Klara Zakopalova (7), Czech Republic, def. Garbine Muguruza, Spain, 6-4, 4-6, 7-6 (1).

Ekaterina Makarova (8), Russia, def. Polona Hercog, Slovenia, 6-4, 6-1.

CFL

WEEK 12

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pt
Montreal	11	7	4	0	301	327	14
Toronto	11	6	5	0	278	274	12
Hamilton	11	4	7	0	341	347	8
Winnipeg	11	2	9	0	203	365	4

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	T	PF	PA	Pt
B.C.	11	8	3	0	298	204	16
Calgary	11	7	4	0	312	257	14
Saskatchewan	11	5	6	0	284	234	10
Edmonton	11	5	6	0	247	256	10

Sunday's result
Montreal 28 Saskatchewan 17
Saturday's results
B.C. 28 Toronto 23
Hamilton 51 Edmonton 8
Friday's result
Calgary 44 Winnipeg 3
WEEK 13
Friday's game — All Times Eastern
Hamilton at Winnipeg, 8 p.m.
Saturday's game
B.C. at Edmonton, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday's games
Toronto at Montreal, 1 p.m.
Calgary at Saskatchewan, 4 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

MLB

LEAGUE OFFICE — Suspended Toronto SS Yunel Escobar three games for displaying an unacceptable message during Saturday's game against Boston.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

TORONTO BLUE JAYS — Signed a player development contract with Buffalo (IL) through the 2014 season.

NHL

MONTREAL CANADIENS — Signed C Stefan Chaput, C Olivier Fortier and C Daultan Leveille to one-year, two-way contracts.

NFL

CINCINNATI BENGALS — Placed DE Jamaal Anderson on injured reserve. Signed DE Wallace Gilberry.
DENVER BRONCOS — Placed C Philip Blake on injured reserve.
MINNESOTA VIKINGS — Released WR Tori Gurley. Signed T Troy Kropog to the practice squad.
NEW ORLEANS SAINTS — Released CB Jerome Murphy.

SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
Kansas City	28	15	7	6	35	25	51
Chicago	28	15	8	5	40	33	50
New York	28	14	7	7	49	40	49
Houston	29	12	7	10	41	34	46
D.C. United	28	13	10	5	45	39	44
Columbus	28	12	10	6	34	35	42
Montreal	30	12	15	3	44	49	39
New England	29	7	15	7	36	40	28
Philadelphia	26	7	13	6	26	31	27
Toronto	29	5	17	7	32	51	22

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
x-San Jose	28	17	6	5	58	33	56
Seattle	28	13	6	9	44	29	48
Real Salt Lake	29	14	11	4	38	33	46
Los Angeles	29	14	11	4	50	40	46
Vancouver	29	10	12	7	29	38	37
Dallas	30	9	12	9	35	38	36
Colorado	29	9	18	2	36	43	29
Chivas USA	27	7	13	7	21	43	28
Portland	28	7	14	7	28	47	28

x — clinched playoff berth.
Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern
Kansas City at New York, 7 p.m.
Chivas USA at Columbus, 7:30 p.m.
Portland at San Jose, 10:30 p.m.
Thursday's games
D.C. United at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.
Saturday's games
Kansas City at Montreal, 1:30 p.m.
New York at New England, 7:30 p.m.
Portland at Real Salt Lake, 8 p.m.
Columbus at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Toronto at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
San Jose at Seattle, 10:30 p.m.
Sunday's games
Houston at Philadelphia, 5 p.m.
Chivas USA at D.C. United, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Vancouver, 7:30 p.m.

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

FIRST ROUND — FIRST LEG

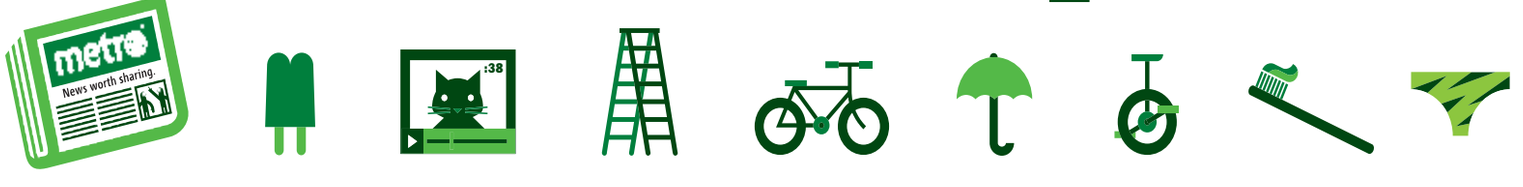
Tuesday's results
GROUP A
Dinamo Zagreb (Croatia) 0 FC Porto (Portugal) 2
Paris Saint-Germain (France) 4 Dynamo Kiev (Ukraine) 1
GROUP B
Montpellier (France) 1 Arsenal (England) 2
Olympiakos (Greece) 1 Schalke (Germany) 2
GROUP C
Malaga (Spain) 3 Zenit St. Petersburg (Russia) 0
AC Milan (Italy) 0 Anderlecht (Belgium) 0
GROUP D
Borussia Dortmund (Germany) 1 Ajax (Netherlands) 0
Real Madrid (Spain) 3 Manchester City (England) 2
Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern
GROUP E
Chelsea (England) vs. Juventus (Italy), 2:45 p.m.
Shaktar Donetsk (Ukraine) vs. Nordsjaelland (Denmark), 2:45 p.m.
GROUP F
Bayern Munich (Germany) vs. Valencia (Spain), 2:45 p.m.
Lille (France) vs. BATE Borisov (Belarus), 2;45 p.m.
GROUP G
Barcelona (Spain) vs. Spartak Moscow (Russia), 2:45 p.m.
Glasgow Celtic (Scotland) vs. Benfica (Portugal), 2:45 p.m.
GROUP H
Braga (Portugal) vs. Cluj (Romania), 2:45 p.m.
Manchester United (England) vs. Galatasaray (Turkey), 2:45 p.m.

NASL

	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	Pt
x-San Antonio	26	13	6	7	44	23	46
x-Tampa Bay	26	12	7	7	36	29	43
x-Puerto Rico	27	11	9	7	31	29	40
x-Carolina	26	10	8	8	43	45	38
x-Fort Lauderdale	27	9	10	8	38	44	35
Minnesota	27	8	9	10	33	32	34
Atlanta	26	6	12	8	31	44	26
Edmonton	27	5	13	9	24	34	24

x — clinched playoff berth.
Wednesday's games — All Times Eastern
San Antonio at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Carolina at Tampa Bay, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday's games
Tampa Bay at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Puerto Rico, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday's games
Fort Lauderdale at Edmonton, 4 p.m.
Minnesota at San Antonio, 7:15 p.m.

Sharability



easy — hard

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HONDA

*Limited time lease offers for a maximum of 24 months at 0.99% lease APR available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. Representative lease example: based on a 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3CE) on a 24 month term at 0.99% lease APR, the monthly payment is $503.37 [includes $1,640 freight and PDI, EHF tires ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100), and OMVIC fee ($5)] with $0 down payment or equivalent trade-in, $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $12,080.88. 48,000-kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. See your Ontario Honda Dealer for a complete list of eligible vehicles. **Limited time purchase financing offers for a maximum of 36 months at 0.99% APR available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. Representative Finance example: based on a 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3CE) on a 36 month term at 0.99% APR and complete price of $27,765 [includes $1,640 freight and PDI, EHF tires ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100) and OMVIC fee ($5). Excludes taxes, license, insurance, and registration], the monthly payment is $783.08. Cost of borrowing is $425.88 for a total finance obligation of $28,190.88. Down payment or equivalent trade-in on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Honda Financial Services Inc. See your Ontario Honda Dealer for a complete list of eligible vehicles. ^$500 // $750 Gas Card offer applies only to retail customer purchase or lease agreements for new 2012 Honda Civic // Honda CR-V models concluded between September 1st and September 30th at participating Ontario Honda Dealers. $500 // $750 Gas Card offer includes GST, PST, HST, QST where applicable and consists of $500 // $500 Customer Incentive from Honda Canada Inc. for all 2012 Civic // 2012 CR-V models; plus $250 Customer Incentive from Individual Ontario Honda Dealers for 2012 CR-V models. †Receive 1.99% purchase financing on any new 2012 Honda Civic DX Sedan (Model FB2E2CEX) for a maximum of 84 months available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. Bi-weekly Finance example: based on a 2012 Honda Civic DX Sedan (Model FB2E2CEX) equals 182 bi-weekly payments of $97 over an 84 month term at 1.99% APR, complete price of $16,520 [includes $1,495 freight and PDI, EHF tires ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100 except Honda Civic DX), and OMVIC fee ($5). Excludes taxes, license, insurance, and registration]. Cost of borrowing is $1,190.42 for a total finance obligation of $17,710.42. Down payment or equivalent trade-in on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Honda Financial Services Inc. ◊Limited time lease offers on a new 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3CE) available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. CR-V model shown is a 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD with Optional Equipment (Model RM3H3CE). Representative lease example: based on a 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3CE) on a 48 month term at 2.99% lease APR, the monthly payment is $287.99 [includes $1,640 freight and PDI, EHF tires ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100), and OMVIC fee ($5)] with $3,879 down payment or equivalent trade-in, $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $17,702.52. 96,000-kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. ♦$4,000 customer cash incentive is valid on any new 2012 Honda Accord Sedan or Coupe // 2012 Honda Pilot // 2012 Honda Ridgeline models and 2012 Honda Odyssey LX when registered and delivered between September 1st and September 30th, 2012. Cash incentive is available for all Honda retail customers except customers who lease or finance through Honda Financial Services Inc. at a subvented rate of interest offered by Honda as part of a low rate interest program. All advertised lease and finance rates are special rates. Cash incentive will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. For all offers: license, insurance, PPSA, and other taxes (including HST) are extra. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. Offers only valid for Ontario residents at Ontario Honda Dealers. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers subject to change without notice. See your Ontario Honda Dealer or visit HondaOntario.com for full details. **Based on Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC) data reflecting sales between 1997 and December 2011.

SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION

Look who's back again

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

Review. Same purpose as before, just in a totally different car

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

Nostalgia ain't what it used to be — or so the saying goes — and that applies to Audi's 2013 allroad wagon that returns following an eight-model-year absence.

A lot has changed in the interim what with today's push to improve fuel performance and the subsequent powerplant downsizing by virtually every automaker. And so it is that the allroad (for some reason Audi doesn't capitalize it as a proper noun) re-enters the marketplace with the same degree of go-anywhere, all-wheel-drive Quattro swagger as before, but with a mere 211-horsepower 2.0-litre four-cylinder engine at its disposal.

Previous allroads offered a base 250-horsepower turbo V6, or 300 horses worth of optional V8 to play with, along with a sorry-about-that concern toward fuel consumption.

Ah, but we're heading into 2013, where less is nearly always more, thanks to gigabytes of technological advancements.

For example, Audi states that the allroad (replacing the 2012 A4 Avant wagon) will accelerate to 100 km/h from rest in 6.7 seconds, much quicker than the V6 version circa 2005. The new model is also about 135 kilograms lighter and is rated at 10.4 l/100 km in the city and 7.4 on the highway, which is a darn sight better than the 14.8/9.4 rating that the last V6 allroad was tagged with.

Assisting in reducing consumption and maximizing overall performance is a standard eight-speed automatic transmission with manual shift controls.

The trim levels offer plenty of luxury options, but no matter how you outfit your allroad, the wagon's inspiring looks, performance and fuel efficiency will never have you longing for the nostalgia of the good ol' days.

Cargo

Cargo capacity with either the rear seats in place or folded flat is somewhat less than allroads of old and is also less than what's offered by direct competitors.

If you're wondering about the price paid for being smaller, you're looking at it.

A look at the allroad's rear.

2013 Audi allroad

- **Type.** Four-door, all-wheel-drive wagon.
- **Engine (hp):** 2.0-litre DOHC I4 (211).
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 10.4/7.4.
- **Base Price (incl. destination):** $47,100.

Heavy on style

The allroad of today is a very handsome piece of work — arguably one of the best proportioned wagons on the market — from any angle.

The cats-eye-style headlight lenses stand guard over one of Audi's more massive grilles. As well, the darkened cladding extending along the sides and the lower portion of the rear bumper neatly contrast with the body colour. The standard 18-inch wheels (19-inchers are optional) fill the allroad's wheel arches almost to the brim. Ground clearance is 18 centimetres, which is 3.8 centimetres more than the outgoing A4 Avant.

That's certainly enough for more "allroad" conditions, but the car's real advantage is the permanently engaged all-wheel-drive.

The 18-inch wheels leave little fender-lip gap, which is a nice design touch. Despite its capabilities, the allroad thankfully doesn't have a jacked-up off-roader look.

Audis are all about giant look-at-me grilles and LED headlight accents.

By comparison

1 Volvo XC70
Base price: $45,700

2 Subaru Outback
Base price: $30,100

3 Mercedes-Benz E-class
Base price: $72,400

5 DRIVE

On the Web

Scan code for more car reviews and news

The publicity of being on the Rubicon Trail is just as important as actually making it all 35 kilometres, from one end to the other. Photos like this show you that Jeep is tough, even if most buyers never set toe to a dirt road. CHRYSLER

Rubicon Trail keeps it real — and rocky

Auto Know. Letting it all hang out in an abyss of rocks and smashed off-roaders to prove just one point...

MALCOLM GUNN
Wheelbase Media

Automakers test their vehicles in all sorts of climates and conditions to prove their worth and to get some publicity. When Dodge, Chevrolet or Nissan claim a quick lap at the Nürburgring race circuit in Germany, YouTube is buzzing with views of the videos. Of course, because it's an old and storied proving ground and the world's yardstick of speed.

But there's a proving ground that's older. Much older, actually. At 300 million years and counting, the Rubicon Trail quite literally rocks on.

Back then, various geological forces conspired to deform the land, eventually creating the mountainous landscape that has challenged anyone — or anything — foolish enough to cross it on foot, horseback, wagon or automobile. To borrow a line from a well-known song, 'if you can make it here, you can make it anywhere'.

The Rubicon Trail has been a challenge to humans for hundreds of years. In recent times it has also become an extreme test of endurance for machinery.

Rigorous testing is an important step that car companies take to ensure their products are able to perform as claimed. Virtually all manufacturers have extensive laboratories and facilities that allow their engineers and designers to see if their latest concepts will work as well as they appear on their computerized drawing boards. Carefully controlled and monitored tests allow for a thorough scrutiny of engines, suspension systems and brakes, as well as other critical components before any approval for mass production.

But testing conducted out in the real world — the really rugged world, that is — is just as important to manufacturers as their own in-house experiments. That's why fleets of prototypes are wrung out in the brutally cold winters of Northern Ontario as well as in the pavement-melting summer heat of the American south-west. Vehicles that can survive both extremes usually provide the kind of fail-safe performance that is expected of today's modern automobile.

For Chrysler's Jeep division, the final hurdle that extreme four-wheel-drive machines must cross is a stretch of rugged landscape known as the Rubicon Trail. The route begins a short distance north of Sacramento, Calif., and runs eastward through the Sierra Nevada mountain range until it reaches the western edge of Lake Tahoe near the California-Nevada border.

Although the Rubicon Trail winds for 22 miles (35 kilometres) through the protected areas of the Eldorado National Forest, it is most definitely not a walk — or drive — in the park. The mountainous region is considered to be the ultimate 4x4 challenge. Survive this excursion, and both you and your off-road motorized back-pack have accomplished an incredible feat.

Conquering the Rubicon was first accomplished by local Indian tribes hundreds of

years before any settlers arrived. The area was first surveyed in 1844 and became a route frequented by fur traders and miners shortly after.

But what put the Rubicon on the map was the discovery of a mineral springs in the area. This led not only to a thriving bottling and exporting business, but also brought in visitors looking to cure their various ailments. This eventually led to the construction of a hotel at Rubicon Springs. But by the 1920s, this once-flourishing attraction had lost its appeal and was eventually abandoned.

Back then, just like today, travellers heading into the Rubicon valley were forced to endure one of the harshest and most unpredictable trails around. Each spring and summer, the retreating ice and snow from the Sierra Nevadas significantly alters the man-made path, moving rocks and boulders, creating washouts from streams that become torrents due to the mountain run-off and generally creating a new set of obstacles for the back-country set to overcome.

However, one generation's hardship is another's pleasure. Since 1953, the Jeep Jamboree, made of a collection of hardy, modern-day fun-seekers, has taken its four-wheel-drive vehicles along the Rubicon Trail on a once-a-year motorized camp-out and rite of passage. The advantage of travelling convoy-style is that someone is always around to help ... or to help get more help.

Aside from this group, numerous motorcycle and all-terrain vehicle riders hit the trail, particularly on weekends during the summer months (the Rubicon is closed to vehicular traffic during the winter) when the area is swarming with prospective conquerors.

Part of the Rubicon's nature is that the trail is apt to rear up and bite at the first opportunity. Many an undercarriage has been damaged, bodywork smashed and kidneys bruised in the attempt to tame what passes for a trail. Nothing larger than the current-model Jeep Wrangler series is recommended for the Rubicon and anyone ignoring this advice usually winds up with some expensive and warranty-voiding damage by the time they make it to the end of the trail at Lake Tahoe (if they complete it at all).

Jeep-sponsored Jamborees take place throughout the United States and Canada each year. These events have been an excellent marketing tool for the company to demonstrate the strength of its products and to stay connected with what it hopes will be a loyal base of customers.

With breathtaking mountain scenery and equally breathtaking moments attempting to traverse a variety of naturally-produced obstacles, the Rubicon Trail provides one of the greatest all-time off-roading thrills to be found anywhere.

SiriusXM

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PROUD SPONSOR OF AMATEUR HOCKEY ACROSS CANADA

2012 RAM CLEAROUT

2012 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Longhorn 4x4 shown.[§]

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2012 RAM 1500 REGULAR CAB ST 4X2
CANADA'S LONGEST-LASTING LINE OF PICKUPS**

$19,995*

PURCHASE PRICE INCLUDES $7,500 CONSUMER CASH,† FREIGHT, AIR TAX, TIRE LEVY AND OMVIC FEE. TAXES EXCLUDED. OTHER RETAILER CHARGES MAY APPLY.‡

- 3.7 L V6 engine
- Air conditioning
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- Sentry Key engine immobilizer

2012 Ram 1500 Regular Cab SLT 4x2 shown.[§]

2012 RAM 1500 QUAD CAB SXT 4X4

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CONSUMERS DIGEST BEST BUY

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STEP UP TO THE 2012 RAM 1500 QUAD CAB SLT 4X4

- **HEMI® V8 power with V6 fuel economy***
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$19 MORE BI-WEEKLY

+Your local retailer may charge additional fees for administration/pre-delivery that can range from $0 to $1,098 and anti-theft/safety products that can range from $0 to $1,298. Charges may vary by retailer.

RamTruck.ca/Offers

GUTS · GLORY RAM

Wise customers read the fine print: •, **, †, ‡, § The 2012 Ram Clearout Event offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating retailers on or after September 1, 2012. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating retailers for complete details and conditions. •$19,995 Purchase Price applies to 2012 Ram 1500 Regular Cab ST 4x2 (22A+AGR) only and includes $7,500 Consumer Cash Discount. $24,995 Purchase Price applies to 2012 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (23A+AGR) only and includes $9,750 Consumer Cash Discount. See participating retailers for complete details. Pricing includes freight ($1400–$1,595), air tax (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. †Consumer Cash Discounts are offered on select 2012 vehicles and are manufacturer-to-retailer incentives, which are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Amounts vary by vehicle. See your retailer for complete details. ‡4.79% purchase financing for up to 96 months available on the 2012 Ram 1500 Quad Cab SXT 4x4 (23A+AGR) with a Purchase Price of $24,995 (including applicable Consumer Cash Discount) financed at 4.79% over 96 months with $0 down payment, equals 208 bi-weekly payments of $145 with a cost of borrowing of $5,143 and a total obligation of $30,138.40. Pricing includes freight ($1,400–$1,595) air tax (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. §2012 Ram 1500 Crew Cab Longhorn 4x4 shown. Price including applicable Consumer Cash Discount: $41,810. 2012 Ram 1500 Regular Cab SLT 4x2 shown. Price including applicable Consumer Cash Discount: $25,445. Pricing includes freight ($1,400–$1,595) air tax (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. See bottom of the ad for range of potential retailer fees. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. ◊Based on longevity of entire Ram pickup lineup compared to competitive pickups. Based on R. L. Polk Canada, Inc. Canadian vehicles in operation and new registrations for model years 1987 – 2011 as of June 30, 2011. The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications LLC, used under license. ΦBased on 2012 EnerGuide full-size truck V8 to V6 fuel economy comparison. ΨThe SiriusXM logo is a registered trademark of SiriusXM Satellite Radio Inc.

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FOR MORE GREAT OFFERS

PHOTOS BY JUSTIN PRITCHARD

F-250: For work, play and relaxing

Dream truck. As rugged and powerful as they come, the Super Duty also has a comfortable, quiet side

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
drive@metronews.ca

With a price tag approaching $75,000, a loaded-up Ford F-250 Super Duty Lariat is priced similarly to a high-end luxury sedan. But, unlike said luxury sedan, it's a potent, purpose-built workhorse with the torque output of a nuclear submarine and a grille as big as a freightliner.

Opt for the $9,950 Powerstroke diesel engine, and you get 6.7 litres of displacement, 8 cylinders, 400 horsepower, 800 lb.-ft of torque, and tens of thousands of pounds of towing capacity. Here's a machine unquestionably engineered for feats of diesel-powered strength.

Of course, you won't use all of that capability, all of the time. And when that's the case, you'll be happy at how much like a luxury sedan the Super Duty Lariat actually is.

Whether hauling a trailer full of pavers or enjoying a road trip with the guys, Super Duty is well set up for a peaceful, laid-back drive.

The smooth leather seats are motorized, heated, chilled, and offer up a memory function for instant access to that ideal driving position. Power-adjustable pedals help here, too. And while travelling the open road in peace and quiet with a view typically enjoyed by transport truckers, automatic climate control and lights self-activate and self-adjust for 'set it and forget it' operation.

Steering wheel controls allow for distraction-free manipulation of numerous vehicle functions, and the Ford Sync infotainment hub responds to voice commands and can spit out a weather forecast, find a pizza joint or even call up your favourite Kenny Loggins playlist. And with full multimedia connectivity, Kenny's serenades can be called into action whether they reside on a CD, USB drive, iPod, or Bluetooth-equipped cellphone. Potent stereo, too.

The PowerStroke engine is a mild-mannered monster: quiet enough to leave running while ordering drive-thru and smooth as glass, even while plowing occupants into their seats while passing. It'll glide the F-250 through traffic without breaking 1,300 r.p.m., too.

Even at full throttle, it barely makes a peep. This is world-class engineering employed in the name of torque output galore.

Back in the day, exhaust emissions of diesel trucks like this could be harvested for chemical warfare. Today, the new 'clean' diesel runs with no smell or soot.

It's a functional beast, too. Numerous power outlets and cupholders are within easy reach, rear seats are massive and big-guy friendly, and storage abounds for smaller items. Your disorganized correspondent loved the dual door-storage shelves, centre mounted pockets and dash tray.

Extra points for the back-up camera and dual-angle side mirrors, which help make parking less intimidating. Factory remote start tied into the air-conditioned seats and climate control was a welcomed feature, too. The list goes on.

It all adds up to an atmosphere conducive to laid-back relaxation and socialization with your passengers.

The F-250 Lariat is an easy-going, high-tech and comfortable rig to live with as your day-to-day ride — as well as a towing tool or hauling companion.

That BMW 5-Series isn't going to pull your camper to the cottage, anyways.

Specs

2012 F-250 Super Duty 4x4 Crew Cab Long Bed

- **Engine:** Powerstroke 6.7-litre turbodiesel V8.
- **Drivetrain:** Four-wheel drive.
- **Observed Average Mileage:** 17 l/100 km.
- **Transmission:** Automatic with manual mode.
- **Features:** Backup camera, heated and chilled seats, navigation, automatic climate control, Ford Sync, premium audio.
- **What's Hot:** Feels solid, safe and powerful, remarkably refined engine, heaps of torque, feature content fitting of a luxury car.
- **What's Not:** Difficult to park, requires a good step to enter.
- **Price as Tested:** $74,609.

Who's up for some Kenny Loggins on the stereo?

Simply put, the engine is a mild-mannered monster.

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2012 F-150 Platinum Super Crew 4x4 amount shown

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British cars are delightfully different

Autopilot

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

British Car Day at Bronte Creek Provincial Park in Ontario welcomes lovely roadsters, like the Triumph TR3, and "others" like the Unicar and the Mini Pickup — as long as they're British. CONTRIBUTED

Do English cars make you "chuffed to bits" or do they make you "throw a wobbly?"

If you're like most car enthusiasts, it's probably both and that's likely the predominant pull of English cars. No other country has produced such a diverse array of vehicles to behold, and such a number of "quirky" ones, which can be simultaneously loved and hated at the same time.

That was my thought, at least, last Sunday, when I found myself at yet another British Car Day at Ontario's Bronte Creek Provincial Park (situated about halfway between Oakville and Burlington). It's billed as the largest one-day all-British car show on the continent, and on that point you'll get no argument from me.

By my reckoning there were at least 1,000 examples of Anglo iron on the park's grassy fields — everything from Rolls Royce to Austin to Lotus to Allard to MG to Land Rover to Morris to DeLorean to Jowett to Triumph to… well you get the idea.

But after a full day of enjoying the diversity and contradictions, I drove home with the nagging question: What is it about the English (and by extension the English auto industry) that made them go this way, to try so many different and wonderful tacks on the vehicle form?

I have my own theories but thought I should pick the brain of a Kevin "Crash" Corrigan, a fellow auto scribe who happens to be very British. Not sure where he exactly hails from in Britain, but my guess would be somewhere around Monty Python.

Anyways, we both believe a large part of it comes from the British tendency to "tinker" and to not leave well enough alone, to work away happily on something alone, or in small groups. This manifests itself in the large automotive "cottage industry" in England, past and present, where small firms populate the landscape, and provide a wide array of kit cars, repli-cars, specialty cars, exotics, racing cars, etc.

It seems everyone in Britain with an automotive vision will inevitably "have a go" at some point, trying to make their vision a manufacturing reality. Sometimes they work out brilliantly and for the long haul, like Jaguar, Lotus and McLaren, and sometimes they don't, like Apollo, Bond, Falcon, Guyson, Marcos, Sheen, Unicar, and so on. Either way it's win-win for people that love cars.

Crash suggested that this type of auto entrepreneur, possibly a "milkman with passion to create a car," is a less common sight in the North American industry, which seems populated more by "the industrialist type."

I'm sure there are other reasons the English industry developed the way it did, but we're out of time.

Crash has to find a larger amp fuse to put in the Land Rover, and I have to slide another drip tray under the Jaguar.

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Like the Aura? Opt for the non-hybrid

Second Gear.
2007 to 2009
Saturn Aura

JUSTIN
PRITCHARD
drive@metronews.ca

Saturn launched the Aura just a few years ahead of their demise as a brand. The mid-sized sedan was highly rated by owners and reviewers alike — thanks in part to riding a European-designed Opel platform and offering great ride quality and handling reflexes.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Common Issues

A clunking or grinding sound, or a rough sensation while steering, could indicate a well-known problem with a steering shaft. A dealership performing a pre-purchase inspection will be familiar with the problem and how to check for its presence. Listen for any squealing or 'clicking' sounds during steering at low speeds, which could also reference this issue.

Engine

Four or six-cylinder engines were available, as was a hybrid-powered variant, which should typically be avoided.

What Owners Like

Many owners report a quiet, solid and smooth ride, premium driving feel, good overall design and good fuel mileage. Styling is rated highly on all models, too.

What Owners Dislike

Some Aura owners wish for more comfortable seats, a rear-seat arm-rest, more at-hand storage and bigger cupholders.

Verdict

Most of Aura's commonly-reported issues seem fairly easy to detect and repair. Standard (non-hybrid) powertrains look to be solid and reliable, too. A well-maintained four-cylinder model will be your least-expensive bet to purchase and maintain.

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Top Gear

Small-time racing

Kids both big and small will get a kick out of playing with the Champions Fold Go slot car race set. The beauty of this item is that it doesn't have to be plugged in (nor does it require batteries) so it can be played virtually anywhere. Each driver hand-cranks on individual controller/generators to make the two slot cars race around the track. And it quickly sets up and stows away in its own carrying case with a minimum of fiddling. The Champions Fold Go is available for about $45 US from a number of toy and hobby stores, or online at amazon.com (item #433-9097).

The buy of the Sentry

If you tow a trailer, purchasing a $120 US Safety Sentry locking system is probably a good idea. This device will prevent your trailer from inadvertently disconnecting from its ball-type hitch and it can also stop trailer thieves dead in their tracks. The Safety Sentry attaches securely over the tongue and ball of most popular hitches and includes a stainless steel look. Visit safetysentryinc.com for more details, including an instructional video and list of dealers. You can also source the product online at amazon.com and other resellers. **WHEELBASE**

We really hope this car was in 'park'

Ricky Stenhouse Jr. reaches for the checkered flag after winning the NASCAR Nationwide Series race at Chicagoland Speedway in Joliet, Ill., on Saturday.

TIM STEWART/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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2007	Honda Civic LX MTR	White	4Door, 5Speed, ABS, PW/PL/PM, PSunroof	50,259KM	70898	$11,888
2008	Honda Element 4X4	Brown	4x4, AU, AC, CD, Moonroof, Loaded	43,764KM	6673	$18,888
2009	Honda Accord EX-L 4CYL	Silver	4Door, Auto, Loaded, Leather Seats, PSunroof, Stereo, Alloys, 6CD, Much More	71,748KM	6709	$19 ,888
2009	Honda Accord V6 EX-L	Black	4Door, AU, VCM, Engine, Loaded, Leather Seats, Alloys, PSunrof, CETRIFIED	18.052KM	90051	$24,888
2010	Honda Crosstour V6	White	4x4 AU, Loaded, Navi-Back-up Sensor	20,742KM	10244	$28,888

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Discs versus drums: Which brakes are the best?

Driving Force.
Both utilize friction, but the newer option may be the better one

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

Although the basic principles of car brakes haven't changed in more than a century, there have been steady improvements ever since. One of the more recent is the adoption of four-wheel disc brakes on many less-expensive models, replacing drum brakes on the rear wheels.

"The primary benefit to drum brakes is in the cost," says Michael Ricciuto, national manager of product and strategic planning for Hyundai Canada. "Drum brakes are fairly inexpensive to manufacture, but they heat up very quickly."

Disc brakes use metal rotors, which are located behind the wheels, and which turn with them. Over each disc is a metal bracket, called a caliper, which holds two brake pads, one for each side of the rotor. When you press the brake pedal, the caliper squeezes the pads against the rotor, slowing and then stopping it. (Imagine putting a pencil through the hole of a CD, spinning the disc, and then grabbing it with your fingers to stop it: that's how disc brakes work.)

Drum brakes also use friction to stop the vehicle, but they have heavy metal drums that turn with the wheels, with internal pads that push out against them to stop them from spinning. Because they're enclosed, they tend to hold friction heat, which can reduce their performance if they get too hot. All modern vehicles have disc brakes on the front wheels, which do about 70 per cent of the vehicle's total braking, but the rear wheels can have discs or drums, depending on the model.

"With drums, you're limited to the surface area you have to stop the car," Ricciuto says.

"There are two sides to the disc, so you double your surface area, plus you can make the disc bigger and increase the size of your pads.

"We put (four) disc brakes on our Accent, our entry-level car, because the braking is more linear and progressive, and has a much more natural feedback. For us, the overall performance is important."

Brakes talk

- Since brakes work by friction, the pads eventually wear down. Replacing them as soon as they are needed will reduce the risk of more expensive brake repairs.
- Have your brakes checked any time they make a grinding or squealing sound, or a continuous squeaking noise that goes away when you press the brake pedal. Also have them checked if the pedal goes closer to the floor than usual, or if the car pulls to one side when braking.
- High-performance brake discs often have holes or grooves cut into the rotors, to dissipate heat even faster.

Disc brakes on a 2013 Hyundai Genesis Coupe; the brake disc is located behind the wheel. HYUNDAI CANADA

Limited time finance and lease offers available from Toyota Financial Services on approved credit. *All-in price of a new 2012 Rav4 2WD (Model ZF4DVPA)/2012 Prius 5-DR Liftback (Model KN3DUPA/2012 Camry Hybrid LE (Model BD1FLPA/2021 Camry LE (Model BF1FLTA) is $26,635/$27,695/$28,690/$25,400. All-in price includes freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air condition tax, where applicable). HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Dealer may sell for less. † 2.9%/3.9%/3.9% lease APR on a new 2012 Prius 5-DR Liftback (Model KN3DUPA/2012 Camry Hybrid LE (Model BD1FLPA)/2012 Camry LE (Model BF1FLTA). All-in price is $27,695/$28,690/$25,400. All-in price **includes** freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air condition tax, where applicable). HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Monthly payment is $330/$363/$315 for 60/60/60 months with a $0/$0/$0 down payment or trade equivalent, and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $19,821/$21,760/$18,906. All-in **lease** includes freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air condition tax, where applicable). HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Based on a maximum of 100,000/100,000/100,000 KM. Additional KM charge of $0.10/$0.10/$0.10 for excess kilometers, if applicable. ¥Representative finance example based **on** an all-in price of $25,000: all-in price includes freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air condition tax, where applicable). HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. 0% purchase finance APR for 72 months equals a bi-weekly payment of $160 for 156 bi-weekly payments with a down payment or trade equivalent of $0. Cost of borrowing **is** $0, for a total obligation of $25,000. ◊Cash Incentives are available on a new 2012 Rav4 2WD/2012 Highlander, and are comprised of a Customer Incentive and a Cash Customer Incentive. $750/$0 Customer Incentive is valid on Toyota retail delivery when leased, financed or purchased from an Ontario Toyota dealership. $0/$1,500 Cash Customer Incentive **is** valid on retail delivery for all Toyota retail customers except customers who lease or purchase finance through Toyota Financial Services at a special rate of interest offered by Toyota as part of a low rate interest program. Advertised lease and finance rates are special rates. Offers valid to retail customers (excluding fleet sales) when purchased from an **Ontario** Toyota dealership. Cash Customer Incentive will take place at time of delivery and will apply after taxes have been charged on the full amount of the negotiated price. Vehicles receiving Cash Incentives must be purchased, registered and delivered between September 1 and October 1, 2012. ^1% rate reduction offer is available to current registered **retail** owners/lessees of a Toyota branded vehicle (registered and insured in Canada prior to September 1, 2012) when they purchase finance or lease and take registered retail delivery of a new 2012 Toyota Yaris Hatchback or Toyota Camry between September 1, 2012 and October 1, 2012, through Toyota Financial Services on approved credit. Proof of current address and registration/insurance/lease required. Rate reduction is limited to a minimum of 0%. Offer not available to TCI/TMMC/TCCI employees/contractors, TMMC Vehicle Purchase Plan participants, fleet customers and graduate program customers. Offer not combinable with Cash Customer Incentives. Limit of one offer per registered **owner/lessee per registered vehicle. No more than one offer may be used toward the purchase finance/lease of a single new vehicle. Current vehicle owner/lessee must be named as owner/co-owner or lessee/co-lessee of new vehicle. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Offer subject to change without notice. See your dealer for complete offer details.** Offers are valid between September 1 and October 1, 2012, and are subject to change without notice. All rights are reserved. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Please see your participating Ontario Toyota dealer for full details.

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Winter is coming

Be prepared. Sorry to be so blunt, but the truth is that those frigid months are on their way, so you better make sure your car is ready

Winter is a beautiful time to experience Canada. Unfortunately, it can also be a dangerous time, particularly when you are driving. Icy roads can be treacherous, and a dead battery can leave you stranded.

"Keeping your car in top form is especially important in winter," says Jeff Burke, president & CEO at Western Financial Group, an organization with services to protect individuals and families in this part of Canada. "Inspect your vehicle thoroughly before heading out onto the road, and make sure you have adequate insurance coverage."

Car Care Canada's website shares these winter maintenance tips:

Check the battery
If it is four years old or older, have it checked at a service station to make sure it will start in bitter temperatures.

Check the fluids
Top up power-steering, brake and transmission fluid; oil; and antifreeze/coolant. (Antifreeze/coolant should be flushed and refilled every two years or 50,000 kilometres.) Replace your windshield fluid with one specially formulated to cut through ice and snow.

Consider winter weight oil
Consult your owner's manual to see if a winter weight oil is recommended for cold months, and remember to change your oil every 5,000 kilometres.

Check the function of your heater, defroster, lights and windshield wipers
Replace your wiper blades every six months, and consider the added power of winter blades.

Winter tires have tread grooves that are designed for traction. ISTOCK

Change to snow tires
Traction is essential when you are driving on snow and ice. Winter tires offer traction, peace of mind and — often — a discount on your car insurance premium.

Repair cracks or dings in your windshield
Freezing temperatures can turn small nicks into gaping cracks that destroy your windshield. Have them repaired before it's too late.

Keep your gas tank at least half full
A fuller tank resists moisture/ice formation inside your gas line.

Be well-equipped
Keep these items in your vehicle in case of emergency: snow brush/ice scraper, booster cables, flashlight, first-aid kit, blanket, extra clothes, bottled water, snacks and necessary medications.

NEWS CANADA

Let's face it folks; this will be your car soon enough. NEWS CANADA

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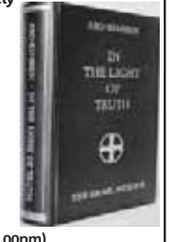

- *The Purpose of Life on Earth*
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- *World Judgment and End Time*
- *Fate and Destiny*
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Horoscopes

Aries
March 21 - April 20
No matter how good the deal you are being offered, you must think twice about it. In fact, the more others say it is an opportunity that is too good to miss, the more likely it is they're trying to trick you.

Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You can either go along with what other people expect of you, merely to keep them happy, or you can do what your conscience tells you is right, even though it might put friendships at risk. Only you can decide.

Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You are torn between doing what you know to be right and doing what others expect you to do. Only you can decide which route to take, but maybe just this once you should be a bit selfish.

Cancer
June 22 - July 23
The higher you climb, the more it will hurt if you fall. So, don't take anything for granted and don't take risks that can easily be avoided. Actions always have consequences, so wise up and go with the odds.

Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You may wish you were somewhere else at the moment but you're not. You are where you are, and you have no choice but to see through what has been started. Be brave. It won't be as bad as you fear.

Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Your plans seem a bit vague at the moment but maybe that's no bad thing. Travel and social activities are likely to suffer from last minute setbacks today, but if you expect them they won't annoy you so much.

Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You would be wise not to make any decisions about what you own and what you earn. Things are unlikely to be as bad as they seem, so calm down and keep telling yourself that better days are coming soon.

Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Try not to be too pushy today because other people are unlikely to stand for it. Uranus, planet of changes, at odds with your ruler Pluto means that upheavals are inevitable. But who says they won't be good?

Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You won't be much in the mood for socializing today. Don't let your friends persuade you that getting out and about will do you good, because it won't. Curl up on the sofa with a good book for company.

Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Even best friends have days when they don't get along and with major planets in discordant positions right now, there may be harsh words. Take none of it seriously.

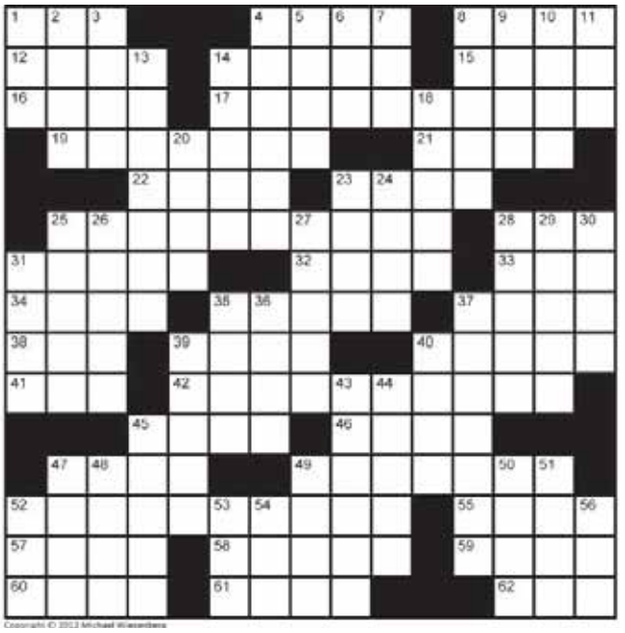
Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You may think that a change of direction is what you need but you are advised not to make any moves yet because the planets are playing havoc with your ability to think straight. Minor adjustments only please.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Because you are bored, you may go over the top and do something outrageous. The consequences could be anything but amusing. Give yourself a challenge but make it one where you don't have to interact with other people.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Deja Vu

BY MICHAEL WIESENBERG



Across
1. Cheat (someone out of something)
4. Horn honk
8. Freeway exit
12. Homer Simpson's favourite bar
14. As ___: usually (2 wds.)
15. One of the Great Lakes
16. Foot covering
17. Canada's government
19. One of the Great Lakes
21. Where to find 7-Down
22. Boxing decisions, in brief
23. Circle around
25. Grammy and Juno award winning French-Canadian singer (2 wds.)
28. "Ten-hut!" yeller: Abbr.
31. Place of refuge
32. Salesmen, for short
33. ___ la la
34. Breezed through, as an exam
35. Architectural drawings
37. Place of refuge
38. Prohibition
39. Hockey disk
40. Canter and gallop
41. [Help!]
42. Efforts
45. Chooses
46. Perjurer
47. "___ oui!": certainly (Fr.)
49. Exchanged, as words, or, with "out," kicked around
52. Rainfall unit
55. Academic challenge
57. Ballet bend
58. Rock band rhythm providers
59. Dream: Fr.
60. Clairvoyant one
61. Talk back (to)
62. Place of refuge

Down
1. Chevys and Cads
2. BC National Park adjacent to Banff National Park
3. Lowly worker
4. Cook slowly in a covered pot
5. Currency of France or Italy
6. House wing
7. Maritime Province: initialism
8. Chart again
9. Greek counterpart of Mars (god of war)
10. After-dinner candy
11. Animal kept for companionship
13. Cleared one's debts
14. Culinary garb
18. A long, long time
20. Closely related (to)
23. Property claim held by a bank
24. "Uh oh"
25. Bean from which chocolate comes
26. Becomes balanced, with "out"
27. Admiral Sir Francis who circled the world in the16th century
28. Escalator alternative
29. Liberals, familiarly
30. Blackens the road
31. Montréal skaters, in the sports pages
35. Football kick
36. Digital readouts
37. PM Wilfrid
39. Coke alternative
40. Drive onward
43. Anti-theft-system components, often
44. Jungle growth
45. Edmonton NHL team member
47. 1,609 meters
48. "I cannot tell ___": George Washington (2 wds.)
49. A/C capacity measures
50. Crossed (out)
51. TV host Letterman
52. Canadian pols
53. Drs.
54. A time to remember
56. Chess or checkers pieces

Yesterday's Crossword

What's online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

	1		4					
3	4					7		1
		5		9				3
8		3		4	2			
	9						2	
			1	7		8		6
6				8		3		
1		7					5	8
					3		4	

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	7	9	5	3	1	4	8	2
8	5	3	2	4	6	9	7	1
2	1	4	9	7	8	5	3	6
3	9	7	6	1	4	2	5	8
4	8	5	3	9	2	1	6	7
1	6	2	7	8	5	3	9	4
9	2	8	4	6	3	7	1	5
5	3	1	8	2	7	6	4	9
7	4	6	1	5	9	8	2	3

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Conditions apply. Ex.Toronto. Prices are for select departure dates and are accurate and subject to availability at advertising deadline, errors and omissions excepted, and subject to change. Taxes & fees include transportation related fees, GST/HST and fuel supplements and are approximate and subject to change. ac=air canada. Head office address: 1 Dundas St W Suite 200, Toronto, ON. Call for retail locations. ONT. REG #4671384
tico.ca

HURRY IN! OFFER ENDS OCTOBER 1ST

The 2013's are here early. That's the Power to Surprise.

$500 WINTER TIRE CREDIT∞

kia.ca

0% —FINANCING ON— **2013**** ON SELECT MODELS

+3 PAYMENTS ON US¥

HWY (A/T): 6.2L/100KM
CITY (A/T): 9.5L/100KM **Sorento SX shown**△

2013 SORENTO 7 PASSENGER SEATING AVAILABLE

$0 DOWN	OWN IT FROM $151≠ BI-WEEKLY	AT 0% APR	FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS

bi-weekly for 60 months, amortized over 84 months with **$0 DOWN PAYMENT.** $7,837 remaining balance. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $2,183 and **$1,650** "3 payments on us" savings*. **BASED ON A PURCHASE PRICE OF $29,078.** Offer based on 2013 Sorento LX AT.

—OR— STEP UP

TO THE 2013 SORENTO 3.5 LX V6:

FOR AN EXTRA $18≠ BI-WEEKLY	AT 1.49% APR

FEATURES: SMART KEY · PUSH BUTTON START · 3.5L V6 276 HP 248 LB-FT · 3,500 LB TOWING CAPACITY

$169 bi-weekly for 60 months, amortized over 84 months with $799 down payment. $8,664 remaining balance. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $2,183 and **$1,650** "3 payments on us" savings*. **BASED ON A PURCHASE PRICE OF $31,678**. Offer based on 2013 Sorento 3.5 LX V6.

2013 SPORTAGE

HWY (A/T): 6.2L/100KM
CITY (A/T): 9.4L/100KM

LEASE IT FROM $245§ PER MONTH	AT 0.9% APR	FOR UP TO 48 MONTHS

$1,699 down payment. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $2,533 and **$500 lease savings.** **BASED ON A PURCHASE PRICE OF $24,528**. Offer based on 2013 Sportage 2.4L LX MT FWD.

Sportage SX shown△

2012 OPTIMA HYBRID

HWY (A/T): 4.9L/100KM
CITY (A/T): 5.6L/100KM

AJAC www.ajac.ca Automobile Journalists Association of Canada — **Optima Hybrid Best New Family Car (over $30,000)**

WAS ~~$32,583~~	WELL-EQUIPPED FROM $26,883◂	INCLUDES $5,700 IN CASH SAVINGS

Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $1,988, **$1,000 ECO-CREDIT**^ and **$4,700** cash savings◂. **BASED ON A PURCHASE PRICE OF $32,583.** Offer based on 2012 Optima Hybrid base.

Optima Hybrid Premium shown△

5 YEAR WARRANTY **WE'VE GOT YOU COVERED**

*5-year/100,000 km worry-free comprehensive warranty.

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- Military Benefit
- Mobility Assistance
- Grad Rebate

see dealer for details

Kia's new Customer Friendly Pricing includes delivery and destination fees and all mandatory government levies. Prices do not include licensing, PPSA or applicable taxes.

KIA
The Power to Surprise

Offer(s) available on select new 2012/2013 models through participating dealers to qualified customers who take delivery by October 1, 2012. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. Offers are subject to change without notice. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers exclude licensing, registration, insurance, other taxes and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Your local dealer may charge additional fees for an administration fee that can range from $0 to $699. Other lease and financing options also available. **0% purchase financing is available on select new 2013 Kia models on approved credit. Terms vary by model and trim, see dealer for complete details. Representative financing example based on 2012 Optima Hybrid Base (OP74AC) with a selling price of $32,583 [includes delivery and destination fees of $1,455, tire recycling and filter charges of $34, OMVIC fee, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399), environmental fee and A/C charge ($100, where applicable)] financed at 0% APR for 60 months. 130 bi-weekly payments equal $243 per payment with a down payment/equivalent trade of $0. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $32,583. License, insurance, applicable taxes, PPSA and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. ***$500 Winter Tire offer is open to retail customers who finance or lease an eligible new 2012 or 2013 Kia vehicle from a participating Kia dealer between September 1 and October 1, 2012 inclusive. Eligible models include 2012/2013 Rio 4-Door and Rio5, 2012/2013 Forte Sedan, Forte Koup and Forte5, 2012/2013 Sorento and 2012 Soul 1.6 L AT or MT models. $500 can be redeemed, at customer's choice, towards the purchase of a winter tire/tires for their new Kia vehicle, in the form of a cheque in the amount of $500 or as a reduction of $500 from the negotiated selling price (before taxes) of the new vehicle. Some conditions apply. See your Kia dealer for complete details. Offer ends October 1, 2012. ≠Bi-weekly finance payment (on approved credit) for new 2013 Sorento LX AT (SR75BD)/2013 Sorento 3.5 LX V6 (SR75ED) based on a selling price of $29,078/$31,678 is $151/$169 with an APR of 0%/1.49% for 60 months, amortized over an 84-month period. Estimated remaining principal balance of $7,837/$8,664 plus applicable taxes due at end of 60-month period. Offer includes $1,650 "3 payments on us" savings, delivery and destination fees of $1,650, tire recycling and filter charges of $34, OMVIC fee, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399), environmental fee and A/C charge ($100, where applicable). License, insurance, applicable taxes, PPSA and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. *3 Payments On Us offer is available on approved credit to eligible retail customers who finance or lease a select new 2012 Soul 1.6L MT/2012 Soul 1.6L AT/2012 Optima/2012 Sorento/2013 Sorento from a participating dealer between September 1 – October 1, 2012. Eligible lease and purchase finance (including FlexChoice) customers will receive a cheque in the amount of three payments (excluding taxes) to a maximum of $350/$350/$400/$550/$550 per month. Lease and finance (including FlexChoice) purchases are subject to approved credit. Customers will be given a choice between up to $1,050/$1,050/$1,200/$1,650/$1,650 reductions from the selling/leasing price after taxes or dealer can issue a cheque to the customer. Some conditions apply. See your dealer for complete details. Offer ends October 1, 2012. §Lease offer available on approved credit on new 2013 Sportage 2.4L LX MT FWD (SP551D) is based on monthly payments of $245 [includes delivery and destination fees of $1,650, tire recycling and filter charges of $34, OMVIC fee, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399), environmental fee and A/C charge ($100, where applicable), $350 lease service fee and a lease savings (lease credit) of $500] for 48 months at 0.9% with a $1,699 down payment/equivalent trade, PPSA, security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $13,467 with the option to purchase at the end of the term for $11,061. Lease has 16,000 km/year allowance and $0.12/km for excess kilometres (other packages available). License, insurance, applicable taxes and registration fees are extra. Retailer may lease for less. See dealer for full details. ◂Cash purchase price for 2012 Optima Hybrid Base (OP74AC) is $26,883 and includes a cash savings of $4,700 (which is deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes and cannot be combined with special lease and finance offers), $1,000 ECO-Credit, delivery and destination fees of $1,455, tire recycling and filter charges of $34, OMVIC fee, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399), environmental fee and A/C charge ($100, where applicable). License, insurance, applicable taxes, PPSA and registration fees are extra. Based on the Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price of $32,583. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. Available at participating dealers. ^ECO-Credit for 2012 Optima Hybrid is $1,000 (deducted before taxes) and is applicable to the purchase or lease of a new 2012 Kia Optima Hybrid. Available at participating dealers. Certain restrictions apply. See dealer for details. ◂$4,700 cash savings on the cash purchase of an eligible new 2012 Optima Hybrid from a participating dealer between September 1 – October 1, 2012. Cash savings is deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes and cannot be combined with special lease and finance offers. Some conditions apply. See your dealer for complete details. △Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2013 Sorento 3.5L SX AWD 7-seater (SR75XD)/2012 Optima Hybrid Premium (OP74BC)/2013 Sportage 2.0T SX with Navigation (SP759D) is $43,045/$37,250/$39,145 and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,650/$1,455/$1,650, environmental fee and A/C charge ($100, where applicable). License, insurance, applicable taxes, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399), tire recycling and filter charges of $34, OMVIC fee, PPSA and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. Available at participating dealers. ^Highway/city fuel consumption is based on the 2013 Sorento 2.4L GDI 4-cyl (A/T)/2012 Optima Hybrid 2.4L MPI 4-cyl (A/T)/2013 Sportage 2.4L MPI 4-cyl (A/T). These estimates are based on Transport Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the Government of Canada's *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. Some conditions apply to the $500 Grad Rebate Program. See dealer or kia.ca for details. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. 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